

# SEVEN DAYS

Inside: Guide to the  
Green Mountain  
Film Festival!

FOR  
SALE

FOR  
SALE  
FOR  
RENT

the  
**REAL**  
**ESTATE**  
*issue*

MODERNIZE MEMORIAL?  
PAGE 16

The auditorium's uncertain future

BUILDING BLOCK  
PAGE 36

Primed for downtown development

OPEN TABLES  
PAGE 38

Vermont restaurants for sale

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THE LAST

# SEVEN DAY

COMPILED BY DAVID SHEAR & TYLER HACHARD

## Decisions, Decisions

**O**n Tuesday thousands gathered in town halls and set aside time to vote on local issues large and small. In the state's largest city residents who elected a new mayor. So who won? How did it end?

"We'll wait until you hear. We sent the paper to press before the results were in," Scarpelli said.

We went up late in morning, though—we hosted a breakfast featuring journalists from across the state. Check out our full coverage to find out how the contentious personnel amendment fared in one of 52 towns that considered it. We'll also tell you what her voters in Lowell and Salem approved—and abandoned asbestos mine into a Superfund site. And, of course, we'll have results from Burlington's mayoral election.

You can find our coverage at [bostonglobe.com/politics](#).

### WEEK IN REVIEW

FEBRUARY 28-MARCH 03, 2012

## facing facts



### MARIO MARS

Vermonter since a juvenile, essentially inactive, many years ago. Two Burlington municipal leaders are running in the primary. One of us will lead it someday.



### PUNK OUT

Low voter turnout all around. This initiative to end child pornography in Vermont didn't last long, so they're running the people?



### TOWN HALL

The CHM annual January fest has slipped from February. Back to basics! The league is last place. Give me each move from global warming...



### GONE IS A BUSINESS

Burlington-based metal music venue Main Drag Union has announced its final days. The small, airport-style entryway is to close for good. A final "Metal Massacre"?

PHOTO COURTESY OF PHILIP RYAN

# \$22k

Last weekend's Magic Mile March Grand Theft Auto rules out the need for DDF Works—Sisterhood's Super Casino Creator—and they have a finished product.

## TOP FIVE

HOT TOPICAL DISCUSSIONS

1. **"Battleground Burlington": The 2012 Mayoral Race** by Pauline Weisz: Burlington's mayoral race was more about style than substance.
2. **"Yellow Brass in Town to Douse Ignorance": The Brass Band's Big Tent?"** by Karen E. Figg: The delegates have held a piece of brassicas ever since occupied a silo in downtown Burlington, Conn., and should it be made legal?
3. **"Affirmative Action's New Direction"** by Kevin J. Braga: Sparsening生育率和人口增长, Peter Braga is calling for longer leave for sabbatical. Now that's moving to隔壁.
4. **"'Real Mars' by Alton Ladd"**: Between the entrepreneurs' public trials or the recent skirmish in tiny Thorntown, Indiana, nothing that's been in the news in Chittenden County.
5. **"Moneyball" Round 2** by Eric Pichot: It took all the free-spirited filmmakers in Vermont, you're never gonna see the Public Service Board!

## tweet of the week:



Amy RTV (@amyrtv) says

...and there's no better way to start your day than with a tweet that reminds you that you're not alone.

AMY RYAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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## CORRECTIONS

The name of Vermont Rail Systems president David Willison was misspelled in last week's story "What Would It Take to Develop Burlington's Waterfront Rail Yard?"

There seems to be error in the article "No Trif on TIF: Kim Community Leaders Say It's a Win-Win for Downtown Burlington." Main Street Landing has contributed approximately \$1 million in property taxes and import and permit fees over the past 10 years, not annually, as stated in the article.

Due to an editing error, a February 22 blog post about the proposed Fair Haven biomass plant — that was excerpted in that week's print issue — suggested "tree knots" are used as fuel. While this is sometimes the case, entire trees may also be harvested to feed the fire.

## WAIRY OF LISMAN

Mr. Lisman is a state-and-national [Bar] Game, "What Is Bruce Lisman Up To?" February 26). When he was a UVM trustee, he spoke to the staff on a couple occasions and tried to convince them that what they thought was in their interest wasn't, and what was in the interest of his and his big-business buddies on the board, was.

Regarding the possibility that he might run for office: At a meeting I attended at UVM maybe 15 years ago, Lisman lamented that the Sarbanes Oxley laws were detrimental to carrying out policies in public institutions. It doesn't surprise me that he is attacking public education. When I was a student at UVM and he sat on the board of trustees, I wasn't too concerned he could much for the concept then.

On another very important matter: Should Lisman decide to run for public office, he was once vice-president of the stock division of Bear Stearns — the first in the career mind of big financial houses to bet other people's money on a Wall Street Ponzi scheme and fail. In its findings, he stated that people's investments were safe while the firm wriggled free from its debts. Don't let him have control of any more public money.

Ron Jacobs  
BURLINGTON

## WEEK IN REVIEW

please your "reporting": "I live in a truck!" (Which is a statement I never made to you.) You had a reasonably good photo of me, but you might have said you failed to contact me for the article, rather than portraying me as a aimless vagrant surviving as an old motor vehicle on the streets.

Your liberal-radical left bias is showing. The Dems and the Progs, with their self-serving, politically correct and anti-Senator rage, are "obligately" reported as the front-runners. They're just brainwashed puppies with a mist. I invited all of them in person to debate me on my show, "Radio Free Vermont," and none showed. None wanted to subject their views to any sort of rational analysis.

Remember, it was the Dem and Progs on the council who paid no attention to the city's deteriorating finances over the past six or seven years because they're "environmental." Remember, it was Bob Ross the Progressive who introduced total secrecy into the mayor's office and an authoritarian form of city government, and who has been allowed to shake free of criminal charges although he illegally diverted some \$12 million in city funds. And the same people who are friends of Koss and Clavelle should be allowed to stay in office? Sure, because of the backlog of propaganda sheets like Seven Days, which carefully covers up all liberal malfeasance.

Ron Kelley  
BURLINGTON

Rkelley@freemail.com  
An independent on Ward 2

*Editor's response:* It's true Kelley didn't interview Rkelley, the information in about his living in a truck comes from Rkelley's remarks at a candidate forum. Rkelley's original story also included other remarks by Rkelley, a self-described "survivability," including "The crash is coming, people." Those remarks were edited out of the final story.

FREDRICKA WIEBER

## TRY SOMETHING!

Seven Days wants to publish your most inventive, your feedback most...

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## RULOFF RESPONDS

I was never interviewed by Krystin J. Kelley or anyone else for the article on the Ward 2 mayoral race. My views and position go far beyond stating, to

# GET YOUR FIXE!

RESTAURANT WEEK IS BACK FOR A THIRD COURSE:  
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& Cafe

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Blue Judd's Bistro

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The Bohemian Cafe

Cafe Provence

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Charlie's Nekesenne  
and Grille

Church & Main

City Market/

Onion River Co-op

Gloss State Cafe •

Govine's Kitchen •

Gorme's Eatery •

The Daily Planet

Das Bierhaus

The East Side

Restaurant & Pub •

El Corazon Taqueria

ycartina •

El Gato Cuchillo •

Ford's Face •

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& Grill

Frodo's Tapas

and Grill

Harrington House •

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the first MI

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Mission Lodge •

Sister's Hikes

Kismet

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Lo Beholden •

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(McGregor's •

A Maitland)

Musical Anthrope

Mystico Grill

Musician over the Hill

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The Three Shillins Inn

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& Lounge

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& Cafe

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Porter's •

Positive Pie II

The Roosevelt

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Rock

Shantytown the Shanty

Starry Night Cafe

Stumble Market

Streetwater

Titan Houseware •

The Viper Tagroom

Three Towns •

Glouceston, Rutland,

Williston

Tourist Inn

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Two Brothers Tavern

The Village Cup •

Windhamer Restaurant

& Upper Deck Pub

Wooden Spoon Bistro •

\* = New in 2012

*Don't see your favorite place yet?*

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Winooski's "Cash Block" are the epitome of  
"study skills." Children show up and pay full  
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70 services  
59 households  
56 business  
54 people  
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26 retirement  
26 music and  
25 legal  
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16 musical groups  
12 pets  
79 items in storage  
87 jobs  
68



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**South Burlington** For Lease

Its convenient location is easy to find. Has great curb appeal, excellent signage and offers a wide open retail floor plan with some offices and back service delivery areas. High ceilings and large front windows! Kid's Zone has been here for 22 years and is closing. Your time is now to take advantage of this great spot! Up to 16,000 SF plus on site parking spaces. Available immediately.

**Eauze** For Lease

Effortlessly Air stand above the presence of Essex Town center. Professional office space with a garage that flows well. Consists of multiple private offices, kitchens, reception area, full per area, storage and more. Parking included. Within walking distance of restaurants, shopping & services, easy access from route 26A and 15.

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**St. Johnsbury** For Sale

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**Lyndonville** For Sale

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**Holland** For Lease

Excellent Rutland location, intersection of Routes 4 & 7. 1,900 SF (52 x 60) of retail space with excellent visibility and road frontage. Monument signage. Landlord fit up available for qualified tenant.



# the MAGNIFICENT 7

MUST SEE, MUST DO THIS WEEK. COMPILED BY CAROLYN FOX

## ① ON THE Art Beat

An aging painting maven of paintings living: River to ceiling and no aim to live like a community and educate visitors about art through its Building Arts' new gallery, Little Fine Art Sales. Screen out the Laramie Lake space — perhaps as one of its oldest? Thursday and Friday night cocktails — and to current exhibit, "GENEVA," a collection of local and regional landscape, portraits, still lifes and more.

[SEE GALLERY PROFILE ON PAGE 40](#)  
[ARTS LISTINGS ON PAGE 40](#)

## SATURDAY 10 Hall to the King

Steve Roth (1972) continues a tradition of many years with his King's Tuxedo. Stairman Samson Bush Whittier (See review I made this year.) He's his sketching Extravaganza, though, and you'll get many people who know him from the Galaxy Inn, where he's hand-delivered their longest streak of reviews in Steamboat Springs.

[SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 40](#)

## ②

## ③ TUESDAY 13

### Almost Famous

It's time to savor a spotter for every time a band claimed their newest hits "set your grandchild's imagination." Since 2007, the **PHARAOH STRANGULATORS** have been players in the lounge set (but don't let that stop you). They're good, but, um, that's not the point. Their guitars, Silver City, take on quirky archetypal qualities that make their focus on the future, not the past, their ticket to the higher Ground Ballroom.

[SEE CLUB SPOTLIGHT ON PAGE 40](#)

## LOOKING FORWARD

### SATURDAY 10

#### Spice World

March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb. Even so, it's a month of extremes. If you want to apply this axiom, you can roll right off the driveway off a plane with this March 10th. More than 50 restaurants and caterers dish out in the fourth annual **Warming Chili Festival** (modestly an off-the-wall party) with live music and street performances. Get it while it's hot.

[SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 40](#)

## ④

### SUNDAY 11

#### Dragon Heart

An hour with the Dragon

**Dragon Auditorium** in Fort Collins is a weird place in more ways than one. Originally a theater, the building was converted into a movie theater. The Indians originally got their own 25 minutes ago back in the Winter State Period. But what's interesting is the impressive roots of this ancient art, as well as the desire to emphasize "soothing" and "whitening" the dragon's face. It's a crazy balancing act at the Pines.

[SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 40](#)

## ⑤

### FRIDAY 9

#### Groundhog Day

It's Groundhog Day after a year, but this time, George Woodard and Woodchuck Theater Company's **Groundhog Day** returns to town full o' sound and the stench o' mosh. The offbeat, only-in-Woodchuck play is a retelling of curtain changes, world news items and unpredictable music. Be warned: It may leave you wanting to relive the day...and over again.

[SEE CALENDAR SPOTLIGHT ON PAGE 40](#)

## ⑥

### SATURDAY 10

#### Happily Ever After

After an epic backcountry ski tour, the third annual **Return to the Ranch** offers varied terrain for the adventurous as hell. From heli-skiing by sun-laden powder to riding out an alpine-style rock or steep descent! Sign up for the 11-mile cross-country route, or track on snowshoes for the crew rides route. Live music, a roaring bonfire and awards reward your efforts.

[SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 40](#)

## ⑦

#### everything else...

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**"United" We Stand**

It was after 11 p.m. on Monday night when the Rensburg town meeting finally got around to the issue of amending the U.S. Constitution.

From the back of the auditorium at Champlain Valley Union High School, an elderly man in a blue flannel shirt and Cole-bronze glasses stood up and implored his neighbors to support a resolution declaring that corporations are not people, and calling on Congress to amend the constitution to undo Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission. That's the 2010 U.S. Supreme Court ruling that birthed super PACs and gave corporations the same First Amendment rights as flesh-and-blood individuals.

The speaker was KAREN HORNAL, a retired Navy veteran whose career included stints as a brazier and organist for naval seal corporations. She said corporations are using that ruling to do "whatever they damn well please," and that a constitutional amendment to repeal the ruling is the only acceptable fix. U.S. Sen. BERNARD SANDERS (I-VT) has introduced just such an amendment in the Senate, and U.S. Rep. PETER VELICKO (D-VT) is backing a companion version in the House.

Legislators end up in the Supreme Court, and they lose it too," Hornal told the packed auditorium. "I don't see that we can continue in that kind of mode in the future."

From the front row, however, local attorney ELLEN FALCON offered a warning:

"The constitutional amendment would not solve the problem this resolution purports to solve. It would not solve the problem of big money in politics," she said, noting that it's not just corporations but billionaires-backed super PACs that are flooding campaigns with cash.

Falcon proposed substitute language supporting restrictions on any source, not just corporations, that pour "substantial amounts of money" into campaigns. But her neighbors shot Falcon down. Minutes later, the town meeting overwhelmingly approved the original anti-corporate/personhood resolution by voice vote.

An audience filed out into the chilly night air while Rep. BILL LIPPERT (D-Burlington) was packing up a cardboard box and shoving his head about what he called an "ill-formed" attempt to halt the "obscene amounts of money distorting the political process."

"It's far more complicated than it appears on the surface," Lippert said of

the issue, noting the amendment would restrain nonprofits, not just for-profit ones. "You start sorting it out, it's not as neat and clean as people would like it to be."

Rensburg was one of 32 Vermont towns debating corporate personhood alongside dump-truck purchases and sewer-system upgrades on Town Meeting Day this year. Across Chittenden County, all found broad support for action that would "allow the government to put limits on the amounts that wealthy individuals and interest groups could spend on political campaigns." A majority of Democrats, Republicans and independents surveyed told *Vermont Politics* they favored the idea "somewhat" or "strongly."

**THIS CONSTITUTIONAL  
AMENDMENT WOULD  
NOT SOLVE THE PROBLEM****THIS RESOLUTION  
PURPORTS TO SOLVE.**

ELLEN FALCON

As of press time, 29 towns had gone on record in support of a constitutional amendment overturning *Citizens United*; voted in favor 11 to 21 of 150 people at Thetford's town meeting, only three opposed it. Woodstock's vote was closer: 34 to 21 in favor.

Undelegated United, it would seem, unites Vermonters of many stripes. In fact, the state is at the center of a growing national grassroots movement to roll back the decision. High-profile backers include Rep. Jerry Nadler of New York and Sens. Dianne Feinstein

But as the Rensburg vote shows, there's a lingering disagreement about how best to do it.

Falcon and others believe a constitutional amendment is a long shot and not necessary to overturn the decision. "That can be addressed through legislation," Falcon told the *Huntington Standard*. BILL SCHUMANN, a Huntington resident and Vermont Public Radio commentator, agreed that while "the problem is very real," broadening the resolution to

cover all big money "would be making a much stronger statement."

Ortiz has pointed out that, as written, Sanders' constitutional amendment would only cover corporations and not labor unions or other trade groups that dump millions into campaigns — a loophole the senator has pledged to rectify.

In the state legislature, Sen. SHERRY SPERBER (D-Chittenden) and 10 cosponsors have prepared a joint resolution urging Congress to amend the constitution to say that corporations are not people. The Senate Committee on Government Operations is set to take up the resolution next week, and at least one senator has warned that, as written, the resolution could face "catastrophic" unintended consequences.

RONALD SCHAFF, a Vermont lawyer who served as chief staff attorney in the Vermont Supreme Court and was executive director of the Vermont ACLU, told the committee last month that "money is not speech" makes a fine motto but could cause trouble if it's enshrined in a resolution.

To illustrate, Schaff offered a hypothetical: Imagine that a town, tired of Occupy protests and rioting police costs, passes an ordinance against noisy meetings or promoting noisy meetings. A political organization submits documents to buy television airtime opposing the ordinance. When the town goes to court to stop the broadening, the organization raises its First Amendment right to free speech and succeeds.

"The court under this amendment might dismiss the complaint because money is not speech," Schaff testified, "and therefore no speech rights have been violated."

Lipper says she's suggested modifications to her resolution and is hopeful the Gov. Igoe committee will incorporate them.

"We are not settling the amendment," she notes. "We are writing a resolution urging Congress to please send an amendment for ratification. There are greater constitutional ends than Vermont's interests at work."

**And the Winner Is...**

Tuesday's press deadline prevents the press version of *Vermont Days* from publishing results from the Rensburg mayor's race — or any election around the state, for that matter. Better luck around the state, visit our Town Meeting Day page at [vermontdays.com](http://vermontdays.com).

July/August 2013 By the time the paper hits the streets, Republicans **MARY WHITTY**, Democrat **MICHAEL BERNSTEIN** and independent **MARINA HORN** will be celebrating victory or holding their wounds. In two of actual results, we offer this look back at Seven Lessons Learned From the 2012 Mayor's Race — the most expensive, most debated, most epic in Denver City history.

L. It won't ever. N.Y.'s over. Many people want home after voting in the third round of the four-year Democratic caucus in November. When **THE ADAMS** and **WEATHERS** finished last at 580 votes apiece, voters turned back to **MONTGOMERY**. And — to learn who the nominees would take place in a month. Next time, don't let me and a woman is crowned. You, you might say, "Desperate Housewives," but that's what TV is for.

2. Twenty debates are too many. When candidates spend every night at sparsely attended forums, it takes time away from the important work they should be doing (driving low turnout). In 2008, the candidates have to maintain the number of debates to 10 or 15 – if only for the sake of the reporters covering and moderating them.

3. When a candidate repeatedly raises the name of her opponent, it's a red flag ~~she~~ twice referred to ~~PERIODICALLY~~ as "Mars" at her campaign launch. It turned out to be one of many details that slipped her attention. Personally, I'm more concerned with a mayor's ability to manage a city than to promote a name correctly. But if you're gonna banch a name, at least get the ethnicity right!

4. A candidate shouldn't offer his opponent a job in his administration before he wins — and the opponent shouldn't accept one, unless raised eyebrows when he had to be would offer Himes a key role in his administration. And Himes made it worse when she said she'd probably take it. For the sake of appearances, at least pretend that no deals have been cut and no职位 offered in vain.

5 Candidates shouldn't go after their opponents for taking out-of-state money if they've cashed checks from Pfizer, Roche and Aventis-Biotech in past campaigns. The Wright camp criticized Weingarten for jutting to Washington, D.C., for a Sun, **HARPER**, D.C.-based

OPINION

**OPINION**

1. It ain't over 'till it's over. Many people went home after voting in the third round of the first-year Democratic caucuses in November. When **THE ADAM** and Weisberger finished tallied 580 voter spaces, voters rushed back to Memorial Auditorium — only to learn the televised debate would take place in a month. Next time, don't leave until a winner is crowned. Sure, you might miss "Desperate Housewives," but that's what TV is for.

2. Twenty debates are too many. When candidates spend every night in some藻目 attended forums, it takes time away from the important work they should be doing: looking for the **best candidate** of Queen City politics. And we have been successful as political career turned out to be little "creative economy" on display. Most observers seem probably left wondering, *What's next?* When the new mayor **PETER DELUCA** was in office, he had bashed out phone records. Now, that's lame. And memorable.

3. If a candidate is going to set the record for campaign expenditures in a Burlington mayoral race — as Weisberger did with his \$100,000-plus club early — he'd better win. If he doesn't, he ends up looking like the **nonwinner** of Queen City politics. And we have been successful as political career turned out to be

3. When a candidate repeatedly misses the name of her opponent, and

candidates have to wait until the number of debates is 10 or 15 – if only for the sake of the reporters covering and moderating them.

**Zinger of the Week:**  
 Green Mountain Daily Bagger [www.gmdd.com](#) has come up with a clever new title for uncharismatic political commentator [Erik Prince](#) – aside from the stuffy-sounding “professor emeritus of political science” at Middlebury College.

**MEMORANDUM** to "Mars" at her campaign backlot. It turned out to be one of many details that slipped my attention. Personally, I'm more concerned with a mayor's ability to manage a city than to pronounce a name correctly. But if you're gonna baffle a name, at least get the ethnicity right!

4 A candidate shouldn't offer his opponent a job in his administration before he's elected, *and* his administration should be able to *and* *will* administer, *despite*

except one. **WALTER** raised eyebrows when he had been asked about Hanes' key role in his administration. And Hanes made it worse when she said she'd probably take it. For the sake of appearance, as well as concern for other faculty members,



*"Elsa and Rick will always have Paris; we'll always have Leunig's."*

—Lisa and Scott Gale

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THE PARADE OF PARIS  
AND THE VALUE OF  
VERMONT IN THE  
CENTER OF SUBURBIA

**LEUNIG'S**  
BISTRO & CAFÉ

# Madam Mayor: Vermont's Only Female Mayor Has Big Plans for St. Albans

BY LEON THOMPSON

**Y**ou could say Liz Gamache will be the first female mayor of St. Albans City after she wins an uncontested race this week. But to be accurate, Gamache had a predecessor.

In 1940, Jane Smith, a Republican schoolteacher, became the first female chief executive in the Bell City's 153-year history. Smith was also the first female mayor in Vermont, which did not let women vote until 1917.

Six days after the swearing in, however, Smith was shot and killed by her friendly 85-year-old gardener, Tomo Javor, at her Congress Street estate. She had just fired him.

Some speculated that Javor was a paid killer. Others blamed the killing on his uncontrolled diabetes. Whatever the case, Javor was ultimately tried, convicted and sent to prison.

Gamache, 48, a Democrat, is confident her term in office will be quite different. Why?

"We're not getting a *guillotine*," she says while enjoying a mug of Irena tea at the Bishop Street home she shares with her husband, Ted, an IBM employee, and children Gabrielle, 13, and Phillip, 10.

Of the eight Vermont cities that elect mayors — Barre, Burlington, Montpelier, Newport, Rutland, St. Albans, Vergennes, and Winooski — only one currently has a female leader: Montpelier Mayor Mary Hooper did not seek reelection after serving the city since 2004. Burlington mayor hopeful Woods Hines was expected to finish third in the Queen City.

"It will be an honor to be one of Vermont's mayors," says Gamache, who has worked for four years as corporate services manager for the Vermont Electric Cooperative. "I hope more women will be encouraged to get involved in local leadership and politics."

On one hand, Gamache shrugs off the historic significance of her place among women at St. Albans City Hall, where only two women — Gamache and Mary Estes — have occupied the city manager's office.

"I like to think people have me involved because of my approach, experience and abilities," Gamache says, "not because I'm a woman."



By LEON THOMPSON/LIZ GAMACHE

On the other hand, Gamache says she hopes to "break down barriers and stereotypes that prevent people from getting more involved in the community." In other words, she knows she's a symbol.

She says, "In St. Albans, I hope to show that anyone can get involved. Creating more diversity than most accurately reflects the makeup of St. Albans is important. Nothing makes me happier than to see someone move beyond the boundaries of their comfort zone and try something new."

With short, side-swept, pepper hair, wire-rimmed glasses and an engaging smile, Gamache walks authority with a friendly, believable, trust-me voice. Her supporters call her smart, articulate and genuinely concerned with strengthening St. Albans around forward-thinking ideas. If she has detractors, they've had to find.

"I am an optimist," Gamache says. "I see the possibilities, and if I have the

choice to see the glass as half empty or half full, I see no reason to see it other than anything but half full. But I'm a realist at the same time. I understand that all sorts of realities play into my optimism."

Gamache announced last summer —

— that she hoped to succeed St. Albans Mayor Marty Manahan, a Democrat who publicly endorsed Republican Brian Dube in the 2010 gubernatorial race.

She had already conferred with Manahan, who did not seek reelection after six years in office.

"I was excited," says Mike McCarthy, 28, owner of the Cosmic Bakery & Cafe at St. Albans City's Main Street. "Liz was the right fit."

Gamache announced a serious campaign. She spent nearly \$100,000 of her own money on lawn signs, a website, and a glowing, tri-fold brochure complete with photos and citations. She also held an official kickoff party in January that

drawn speeches, food and a bipartisan crowd of 40 citizens, businesspeople and past St. Albans mayors.

No one else came forward to challenge Gamache for the job, which paid \$50 a month until the recession hit; now it's volunteer. In the end, she ran unopposed.

"When Liz announced, she showed up at the *Argus*," McCarthy recalls. "She got so much support from all corners of the city, no one wanted to come out a bloody mess against her."

Born in Binghamton, N.Y., Gamache spent part of her childhood in California before her family settled in Burlington, where she graduated from Burlington High School in 1980.

At the University of Vermont, she considered a career as a journalist — and spent a year studying in Germany — before graduating in 1984 with a degree in business administration. From the mid-'80s to mid-'90s, Gamache owned and operated the Church Street Cow Cart, a popular cow-themed barbecue joint. And, yes, she dressed the part.

## POLITICS

"That's right," she says. "I was 'The Cow Lady'."

Tired of retail, Garnache went to IBM, where her father, Bob Nadeau, worked in public relations. She stayed there until she landed a position with the Franklin Grand Isle United Way, in 2000. She quickly became a key figure in St. Albans, where she had moved in 2004.

"I'm not starting on Day One with this commentary," Garnache says during an interview last week, as her golden retriever, Cleo, sniffs near her feet under the dining table. "I've been involved in community projects for years. This is a continuation for me."

As she assumed a leadership role in St. Albans City's creative economic efforts in the mid-2000s, Garnache also became the managing director of the city's community justice center, a grant-funded program that aims to tackle youth and elder mobility issues.

Garnache's first city job led to others. She served as assistant city manager under Giacomo, then became interim city manager in 2007. Garnache is willing to share credit with Garnier and city staff for stabilizing city finances and making transparent fiscal processes more transparent.

"We were at a point where we had to face certain issues and address them, and we had to do that openly to the community," Garnache says.

Current St. Albans City Manager Bourassa (Cloud First) succeeded Garnache in 2008, when he directed the Vermont League of Cities and Towns' Municipal Assistance Center. "Our working relationship was fruitful, collaborative and exciting," he says, noting that he is looking forward to working with Garnache again. "It's very well positioned for the challenges this city faces."

Among them is an ongoing and arguably progressive battle against drug activity — Garnache campaigned on making city neighborhoods safer — and evaluating the work of a 10-person panel charged with studying whether St. Albans City should merge with neighboring St. Albans Town, a contentious, decades-old issue.

Also, Garnache says, Walmart is now a reality for the city — construction on the controversial St. Albans Town store starts this year — and she sees it as an opportunity to bring more people to the region, particularly to downtown St. Albans.

Late last year, St. Albans City nabbed a \$2 million federal transportation grant to improve sidewalks, lighting and landscaping as part of a years-long downtown revitalization effort.

McCarthy thinks it's appropriate that the chair of the St. Albans City Downtown Board, of which he is an active member, is also the new mayor. He says Garnache will lead a diverse group of downtown stakeholders through a multiphase downtown revitalization plan that should produce tangible results this year.

"A lot of people talk about finding middle ground and consensus, because they think it will help them politically," he says. "I watched [Lis] do it. That's refreshing."

McCarthy, who chairs the Franklin County Democratic Committee, invited Garnache to speak at a fundraiser he hosted last fall. He says she made a strong impression among Democrats who had not yet met her. She received encouragement — but no official endorsements — from Democratic heavy hitters such as Gov. Peter Shumlin, Secretary of Administration Jeb Spaulding and former governor and U.S. ambassador Madeleine Kunin.

"When someone has the popularity that Lis has, people in political circles start to look at her statewide as someone with a good future — the proverbial rising star," McCarthy says. "But with all the talk, I've never heard Lis discuss higher office. She's someone that has never seen herself as a politician, but she seems to have taken to the role."

Garnache isn't getting ahead of herself.

"I had people comment and suggest that this could be the start of something bigger," she says. "But, for me, the focus is local. It's about St. Albans City right now!" ☐

I LIKE TO THINK PEOPLE HAVE ME INVOLVED BECAUSE OF MY APPROACH, EXPERIENCE AND ABILITIES  
— NOT BECAUSE I'M A WOMAN.  
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**U**nkind contemporaries will tell you that two of Burlington's best assets are to be found in the downtown north end room of Memorial Auditorium. The imposing potential beauties date from Meerschaus opening 85 years ago.

It may take a good eye to appreciate some of the lovable features of a building that its former owner, Burlington City Arts director Dennis Kraft, describes as "an old, gray battleship." In fact, some observers view Memorial Auditorium as decrepit, depressing and dangerous. And, regardless of how it's appraised aesthetically, the new mayor is going to have to decide whether to tear it down and build a new civic arena in its place — a relatively hassle-free option since MemAud sits on the batonos' highway — or spend at least \$4 million just to renovation the building at its current "shaky but functional" level.

That's how Andy Snyder, assistant manager of the street-level clay studio in that building, views the three-story structure, which he considers "a great gift." Snyder is one of half a dozen fans of Meerschaus who were spinning and shaping pots in the night studio last Saturday. "This is an excellent space for us," Snyder declares.

Upstairs, hundreds of shoppers seemed happy to be there, as well. They were browsing and buying root vegetables, preserves, cheese, pastries and craft items from 58 vendors who had set up stands for the seasonably winter farmers market. "It's perfect for us," market manager Chira Wagner says of the great, warm, air-conditioned space where an average of 1500 locals come to shop and socialize on 13 Saturdays between early November and late April. "We're happy here!"

Burlington teens like Meerschaus, too. They come to show as well as to after-school programs and music and dance camps that site place in 231 Main, the downstairs performance space that director Richard Barley describes as "the longest-running all-ages club in the United States." Barley, 43, says he first came to 231 Main as a student in 1985, the year that then-Mayor Bernie Sanders inaugurated it as a youth-recreation center.

In Meerschaus' third-floor loft, the Jeff Kuhn dance and drama troupe gives lessons in the arts and culture of West Africa. A dormitory annex adjacent to the ECA-run pottery and printing studios is also available for amateur-scale performances.

As a member of Meerschaus' broad constituency, Barley wants to see the building upgraded, not gutted. "I'd like to see it have some revitalization in the meantime," he says. "Please don't strip

## Will Burlington's Next Mayor Spare Memorial Auditorium?

BY KEVIN J. KELLEY



away the personality and the memory. Meerschaus' an accessible backdrop to Burlington's history."

Built in 1932 by local architect Frank Austin, the neoclassical gem at the corner of Main and South Union street was dedicated to the memory of Burlington's war dead. Writing in the Burlington Free Press in 1938, Mayor C.H. Becher

extolled the new 20,000-square-foot stone space, which accommodates 2500 spectators. "Burlington now claims the largest and best equipped auditorium in New England north of Springfield, Mass., and a ranking's successful bid in the leading convention city of northern New England," Becher declared.

That was then. These days of

A LOT OF SHOWS DID VERY POORLY AT MEMORIAL IN THE PAST 10 YEARS. THAT'S PARTLY BECAUSE PEOPLE IMAGINE IT BEING A BAD VENUE FOR CERTAIN PERFORMANCES.

DIDRIEN KRAFT

Burlingtonians fondly recall seeing stars such as Bob Marley, B.B. King, Bob Dylan and Louannen Price perform at MemAud in the '60s, '70s and '80s. Some of them have gone on to have kids who have more recently attended debut shows featuring Nelly and Shania.

Today, the auditorium books about 20 large-scale events per year, says Alan

Campbell, who has managed the facility since 1995. That includes "ring out" such as wrestling and mixed martial arts. Some concert acts that would once have played Menard's now prefer the bigger space of Higher Ground or, if their names are big enough, the spruced-up Flynn Center for the Performing Arts two blocks west.

"A lot of shows did very poorly at Menard's in the past 10 years," says Kraft, whose arts organization managed the auditorium until 2006. "That's partly because people struggle at being a bad venue for certain performances. There hasn't been significant investment made in it for a long time." In terms of energy waste alone, Menard's functions as "a tremendous loss," Kraft says. The annual natural gas bill — for heat — is \$40,000. Electricity runs \$30,000 a year.

Campbell, who now runs Menard's under the auspices of Burlington's Parks and Recreation Department, agrees that the city is only "peaking out" at the capacity flaws and structural problems that cause Menard's to be used by some as a third-rate space. "Over time," Campbell concedes, "defered maintenance does affect the experience of people who go to Menard's."

Soon, notes Community and Economic Development Office director Larry Kiplerius, workers will resume repairs on exterior bricks that have been "loosening." The city is also completing construction of a ramp that will give wheelchair users smooth access to the auditorium's entrance.

For the roughly \$100,000-a-year operations budget that Menard's doesn't allow for the repairs needed replacing the building "top to sole," Campbell says, "what's got to be done, no matter what." Long-deferred maintenance work has pushed the cost of "just a bare floor up" to an estimated \$4 million, by Campbell's calculation.

Kraft puts the price tag far through modernization of the building, or construction of a new facility at \$10-15 million. She acknowledges that the city doesn't have anything approaching that sum, so the most practical way forward, she suggests, is through a public-private partnership that sets out decisions that come from community-wide deliberations.

Eventually, Burlingtonians will also have to decide how a new or renovated

auditorium would relate to whatever else might be built on the so-called "Super Block" the new houses the main fire station and the municipal library as well as a small former hotel and, perhaps most inefficiently, a 42-space parking lot. The recent plan for urban design charrette suggested general citizen approval for a suitable mixed-use building on the corner of Main Street and South Winooski Avenue. Such a structure would have to include a parking garage, he says to accommodate drivers who come to shows at Menard's or its replacement.

Menard's enjoys an advantage over the Flynn in having a flat floor with no permanent seats, Campbell points out. That enables the auditorium to host not only boxing and wrestling matches but also circus acts on First Night. On those occasions, Campbell says, "There's not a bad seat in the house."

Noting that Menard's occupies a niche between the Flynn, which seats 1,400, and the University of Vermont's Patrick Gym, which holds 2,600, Campbell avers, "It'd be easy to test it down." And even if UVM or another entity eventually builds a long-contemplated 8,000-seat arena somewhere in Chittenden County, Menard's customer pool still may be easy to justify, Campbell argues: "Marketers need a variety of performance spaces," he says. And he feels safe the issue of parking by pointing out that the Flynn thrives even though it, too, lacks a reserved set of spaces for private vehicles.

Menard's attendees are not as bad as some suppose, adds Staples, the city audio-visual manager who remembers taking in a double bill of Goddess Noah and Joan Armatrading sometime in the 1980s. "Noah's sound was terrible because she didn't know how to work the space acoustically," Staples says. Armatrading sounded great because she knew what to do with the sound board in a space like this one.

Surveying the booking scene at the Farmers' market, Celeste Gouala, an immigrant from the Republic of the Congo working at the Stowman stall, seemed to sum up the considerations that will determine Menard's fate: "It's not as beautiful as it should be," Gouala observed. "But there's a cost to make something attractive. Are we willing to pay that cost?" ①

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## Feedback

### HOW DO YOU SAY...?

Regarding Dan Balter's fury over the Vermont "accent" ("Say What? Rounding the origins and uncertain future of the Vermont accent," February 15), I would like to point out that there is a difference between an "accent" and a speech impediment, or lack of proper speech development. Many youngsters exhibit the glottal stop Balter described, even though their parents and teachers do not speak that way; most outgrow it. To my ear, the glottal stop, and a significant amount of the leering and sniveling, is simply a lack of proper training — not an "accent."



Balter would apparently have us believe that while New Hampshire and Maine have their "provincially charming drawl," "Vermontese" is punctuated with a variety of ignorant-sounding extra vowels and missing consonants. I more enthusiastically disagree. I have witnessed plenty of Vermont "accents" where the language as pronounced is perfectly in the Queen's English, it just sounds different.

No study of Vermont's language is complete without looking up on the mid-20th-century work of Dartmouth College history professor Allen Follett, and to this long-time observer, Rusty DeWees is an outlier compared to George Woodard, originator of the world-famous (at least in a few parts of the world) Ground Hog Day. Early the grousing (legal) entertainment on Earth, it's like "Frolic Home Companion," except that Ground Hog Day is by far the funnier.

And lucky for you, Ground Hog Day is playing throughout March [in Chelsea, Randolph, Hyde Park, Barre and Waterbury]. I encourage one and all, Dan Balter especially, to be in attendance.

Steven Fernandes  
PLAINFIELD

### NEW HAMPSHIRE'S GOT THE IDEA

The reason the state is revenue "strapped" is that our politicians can't stop spending. "Vermont Software Firms Taxing the Cloud Has No Silver Lining," February 16. Now come New Hampshire, with a population twice the size of Vermont's, has a state budget approximately the same as ours! Maybe they provide fewer services. Maybe we should learn to live with less rather than tax the people and businesses of that state to poverty!

Jim Thompson  
COLCHESTER

### TAXING WHAT?

I must applaud the notion of our entrepreneurial IT friends ("Vermont Software Firms Taxing the Cloud Has No Silver Lining," February 16). Were I to receive a tax bill like those described in the article, I would be livid, and maybe even planning how to get my business based in another state.

The policy decision is just plain wrong on so many levels. It is ludicrous. If someone hires their neighbor to shovel the driveway instead of buying a shovel themselves, does that make the transaction subject to sales tax?

Cloud computing is innovative precisely because it is a service and not a product. This isn't a tax dodge; it is a fundamentally different way of meeting our needs. If this should be taxed, it requires a new type of tax to do it fairly; this is much more like a stability fee.

Aside from this, imposing a retrospective tax on something that clearly, on the face of it, should not be subject to the tax is obnoxious. And in this particular case, it is foolish, as well. One huge advantage of cloud-based computing is that the actual physical infrastructure can be located anywhere. I suspect it would be relatively easy for many of these businesses to legally relocate their "headquarters" out of state for the purposes of avoiding tax, without significantly inconveniencing either their staff or customers. Why should we push them to do this?

These are the sorts of jobs we should be welcoming to Vermont. I encourage the legislature to step up and pass a law retroactively "forgiving" that tax and reaffirming our commitment to helping these companies thrive. This will consider a more just way to ensure everyone benefits from their productivity.

Brian Leet  
MONTPELIER

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# STATE of THE arts

## An Inside Look at the Amish; Green Mountain Film Festival Preview

BY MARJORIE HARRISON

**V**iewers of *The Amish*, a documentary shown on PBS last week as part of the "American Experience" series, may have won some familiar places. The filmmakers showed vintage footage of Burlington alongside their interview with **SALOMA MURRAY FURLONG**, who left her Ohio Amish community to Vermont in 1977.

At the Burlington YWCA, the young woman and **DANIEL FURLONG**, a wonder-of-say maker and early Church Street peddler — and fell in love. Her relatives came to bring her back to Ohio, where she struggled to conform to the community's rules for nearly three more years before leaving again. Today the Furlongs are married with two grown sons and live in Massachusetts, after 30 years in Vermont.

Last year, Furlong published a memoir, *Why I Left the Amish*, that gives readers a rare look inside the exclusive community. (Most of the Amish interviewed for the PBS documentary declined to appear on camera.) To the makers of *The Amish*, she says in an email, her story was a "counterpoint" to the pastoral images of Amish refugees and the testimonies from Amish youth who can't imagine leaving their community. (One teen talks about her fear of marrying someone who might take her more than 14 miles from her family.)

Furlong will talk about her experiences growing up Amish — and leaving — after a screening of *The Amish* this Saturday at Burlington's Fletcher Free Library.

It's time once again for **FROM BIRDS**' annual **GREEN MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL**, which runs March 16 to 26 in Montpelier, and March 30 to April 3 in St. Johnsbury.

The program is crammed with artfully important and edifying flicks, but the one we're most anticipating is *Captain!*, a documentary from **BRUCE RONCALLI** of *Birds*' **MURKIN** series.

Roncalli attained a measure of media immortality by directing a failed broad-

sheet Anna Nicole Smith in her final film,

the tragic sex-spod *Illegal Affairs*. He kept cameras rolling behind the scenes of that chaotic shoot, and *Captain!* is the result. At the March 26 screening, Roncalli and producer/Tiger! Aloha costar John Jones (best known for his lugubrious Jeff Goldblum as "Dynasty") will

discuss the experience. Look for a preview in next week's *Green Days*.

Here, grouped by theme, are a few more highlights of the fest. *Peek, drama, there, women and delicious info at greenmountainfilmfestival.org.*

**Rebel Int'l:** Long before Michael Moore, there was Len Lye, who was blacklisted by the film industry in 1950 after crafting pioneering progressive works such as *Native Land* (1945). His son, Tim, a cinematographer, introduces his father's work and other rarely seen political documentaries during from 1950 to 1950 in a series called "American Documentary's Radical Roots," downstairs at the Savoy Theatre.

**Dear Ruth:** Curious about those "other" nominees for Best American Feature Film? *A Girl in Paris* and *Chin & Wolf*?

### AS ALWAYS, THE DRAMAS AT GMFF TAKE US AROUND THE GLOBE.

Now you can see them both. The former is recommended for kids 7 and up, the latter is an acclaimed, well-oriented love story set in the heyday of Cuban jazz. If *Fargo* piqued your curiosity about the fantastical world of Georges Melies, catch a screening of *Up to the Moon*, along with a documentary about its restoration. And if *The Artist* made you eager to see silent on the big screen, check out Buster Keaton's *The General* with live piano accompaniment.

**Cross:** *Cross* is a documentary about the tough life of a traveling family circus in Mexico. Circus Dreams is local director

**SARAH WILSON**'s record of an extraordinary summer spent touring with the teen performers of Vermont's own *Circus Dreams*. Warning: Cirque Colossal is a drama set in the run-up to the Balkans conflict, not a circus story.

**West of Silence:** As always, the dramas at GMFF take us around the globe. Two young Englishmen find their one-night



Photo: Bruce Roncalli

stand becoming something more in the acclaimed *Workfront*. A New Zealand kid learns hard truths about his idolized dad in *Boy*. Rachael Weisz plays a mid-century Englishwoman embroiled in a sordidly passionate love affair in *The Deep Blue Sea*. An Israeli company must struggle with tragedy in *The Human Resources Manager*. Turkish detectives unravel a mystery in *Once Upon a Crime in Anatolia*.

**East, But Forgotten:** A core-dash cap portrises a band of "jungle permaculturalists" in the surreal comedy *Jungle* of *Home*. Steve Martin with friends Give *Mr. the Beach*, a doc about the quixoticized American string instrument. Director Chris Pizello and Frank Zappa collaborator Joel Trane nail it in a screening of *Inside the Perfect Circle*. Pizello's doc about how Trane used music to rehabilitate himself after a stroke.

**Local Color:** Get a fresh peek at *Wilcote* in Vermont, a close-up look at the lives of refugee families from Essex director

**MIRA HOROWITZ**. *Buckground* chronicles the aftermath of Tropical Storm Irene in strength of its stars. Actor-director **EMI KUTCHER** of *Newbury* presents his new short film, "Presto," based on a Ted Kooser poem and containing Frances Sternhagen.

Finally, don't miss the screening and judging of entries in the **GREEN MOUNTAIN FILM CLIMB** on March 16. Last year's inaugural edition showcased just how much a crew of caffeine-fueled cancer warriors can get done on the strength of last-minute ingenuity and desperation. ☐

**WORKING** *at The Amish* with Jennifer Lee Putting, Saturday March 12, 2 pm, at the Fletcher Free Library, Rutland. Free. [rutlandlibrary.org/programming.cfm](http://rutlandlibrary.org/programming.cfm). The documentary can also be viewed at [tiny.cc/meyarw](http://tiny.cc/meyarw).

**GREEN MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL**, March 10-26 at the Green Theater City Hall Arts Center and Pavilion Auditorium in Montpelier and March 30-April 3 at Colchester Arts at St. Johnsbury. \$9 per film. Schedule and ticket info at [greenmountainfilmfestival.org](http://greenmountainfilmfestival.org). Special ticketed starting March 10.

# A Southern Writer Lands in Vermont — and Best American Short Stories

BY AMY LILEY

**B**efore she moved to Shaftsbury in 2005, North Carolina-born **MARY BURGESS** thought of herself as a Southern writer. Now her life is about as quintessentially Vermont as it gets. She lives in an 1838 farmhouse — her veterinarian husband's childhood home — and tends the family's chickens, goats and horse. Inside, four dogs and four cats share space with the couple's two young daughters and Mayhew Burgess's father-in-law, Robert Frost's old house (now a travel writing

MELISSA

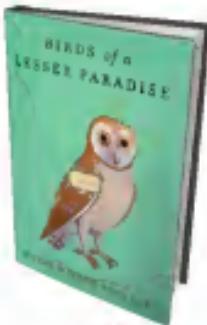
WILSON

Many of the stories in Mayhew Burgess's debut book, *Birds of a Lesser Paradise*, are set in the South — including the beautifully moving first one, "Honest-to-God," which novelist-scholar Geraldine Brooks selected for *The Best American Short Stories 2011*. But their concerns — rural living, women's situations, bonds between humans and animals — are a piece with her intensely motherhood- and animal-focused Vermont life.

"I've always been attracted to rural life, but I've never lived it before moving here," Mayhew Burgess admits during a phone call managed between cleaning up after a chronically sick dog and trying to put an unsettling mobile down for a nap. The 32-year-old worked as a business consultant while putting herself through a master's in liberal studies at Duke University, which she followed with an MBA at Dartmouth College.

Now, on a phone-filled day, Mayhew Burgess describes daily sounds of egg collecting with her belly strapped to her back, and efforts to stow setting time in the colborded office of her in-laws' old veterinary clinic. Her husband moved back home to take over his parents' practice.

She believes such physical engagement with the world is "what makes writing good" — a lesson she tries to impart to her students at Bennington, where she teaches memoir writing and critique. In Mayhew Burgess's writing, sentences are spare and stripped of sentimentality, the dialogue sharp of



## BOOKS

quotation marks. Stories actively pivot between present and past, assessing, complicating a few brief pages a surprising depth to characters' lives.

Those characters — all women — are often trying to come to terms with a tendency to care too much for others. An animal activist takes in abused pets and injured wildlife at the expense of her relationship. A dedicated young mother worries she's "fraud"; an older one laments her failures. Adult women care for their aging parents with complicated feelings. Through parenting, they begin to understand their own mothers' tendencies.

"Mothers, I believe, indoctrinate us," comments the protagonist of "Nestleday's Whales" after discovering she has become pregnant by a fervent population-control activist. "We admire them and raise them for granted. We hate them and blame them and cast them more thoroughly than anyone else in our lives." Looking at her 20-year-old son, the speaker of "Honest-to-God" wonders that her own angrily distant mother's "body ... was overrun with nerve endings that ran straight to her heart, and it was made with rawness, or acid, perhaps, like the nothing."

The author says she has found motherhood to be



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# STATE of THE arts

## Southern Writer BY AMY

body "biologically satisfying is a way that other accomplishments in my life haven't been," and "a really bad job" in which failure is inevitable. "There's no perfection in motherhood," she says wryly. It has also made her aware of "the almost animal facets of the attachment I don't think you understand that until you go through it."

"Animal" is not an accidental descriptor for Mayhew Bergman; her stories equally convey woman's devotion to animals, and recognition of their molding instances as parallel to humans'. In depicting animal behavior, though, she is careful to have her husband — whom the calls "my patient mate" — edit the accuracy and believability.

Such gender-focused work by a woman doesn't often win the level of recognition Mayhew Bergman has received, which has included publication in significant journals such as *Narrative* and *Karenlynne Moore*, and a first-book contract with Scribner, Vida, an organization for American women in literary arts, recently released a study showing that a significant majority of literary reviews

in 2010 favored books by men, and the reviewers were mostly men. The study confirms evidence of a literary establishment in which, as one obvious recent example, Lorrie Moore's excellent *A Gate at the Stars* — the story of a mother's effort to cope with the death of her child — received a fraction of the attention lavished on Jonathan Franzen's *Freedom*.

"I do firmly believe the statistics," Mayhew Bergman says, citing Jennifer Egan and Lauren Groff as contemporary women writers whose work shares her priorities. But ultimately, she says, "I just appreciate the medium of fiction to be able to explore the ideas [gender roles, Fiction can illuminate some essential human truth] — that of women, mother and animal love, is, she says simply, "the perspective I have to offer." □

**f** [Steve & Linda's Literary Paradise](#). Stories by Steve and Linda Bergman. 52 entries. \$24. This author has about 100 titles and her book on [Saturday, March 18](#) at [Merrimack Bookseller](#) in Manchester. 7 p.m. [sonnetbooks.com](#).

## SNOW WHITE VS. THE SUITS

In a handwritten note to Seven Days' TEHARAHABAN, aka Tom Lange, a apologist about his spelling — "I only got as far as the 8th grade," he writes but lefted formal education short, keep the Burlington old-timer musical and artistic from a lifetime of creative output, nor have any been observing and assessing the ways of the world. The latter heathens also made him an outspoken activist. All these talents are on display in his latest creation, *Snow White: An Adult Puppet Show of Our Time*. The half-hour video attributed to the [BARTA&THURBER THEATRE](#) has been shown a few times at Burlington's [PAINTER-DEAN CINEMA](#), and is appearing twice weekly on [VIAIR](#).

The "adult" in the show's subtitle does not refer to anything X-rated, other than a few curse words. Children would enjoy this show for the fully handmade puppets and simply drawn characters, which include woodland creatures. Little ones might be jolted by this updated version of the fairy tale, though. Here Snow avoided from the forest by rapacious



developers becomes an organizer and is arrested as an eco-terrorist before becoming... well, nevermind. Don't want to spoil the ending. Suffice it to say this tale has a lot more to do with global corporations pillaging the planet than with hardworking dwarves and their beloved fair maidens. There's even a mini-episode on [MILKTEA](#) economics. All ages though can cheer for Abigail with and her spectacular spells.

*Snow White* is not selling *Snow White* on DVD, so check the [VIAIR](#) schedule for showings throughout the month.

PAMELA POLSTON

## 'SNOW WHITE: AN ADULT PUPPET SHOW OF OUR TIME'

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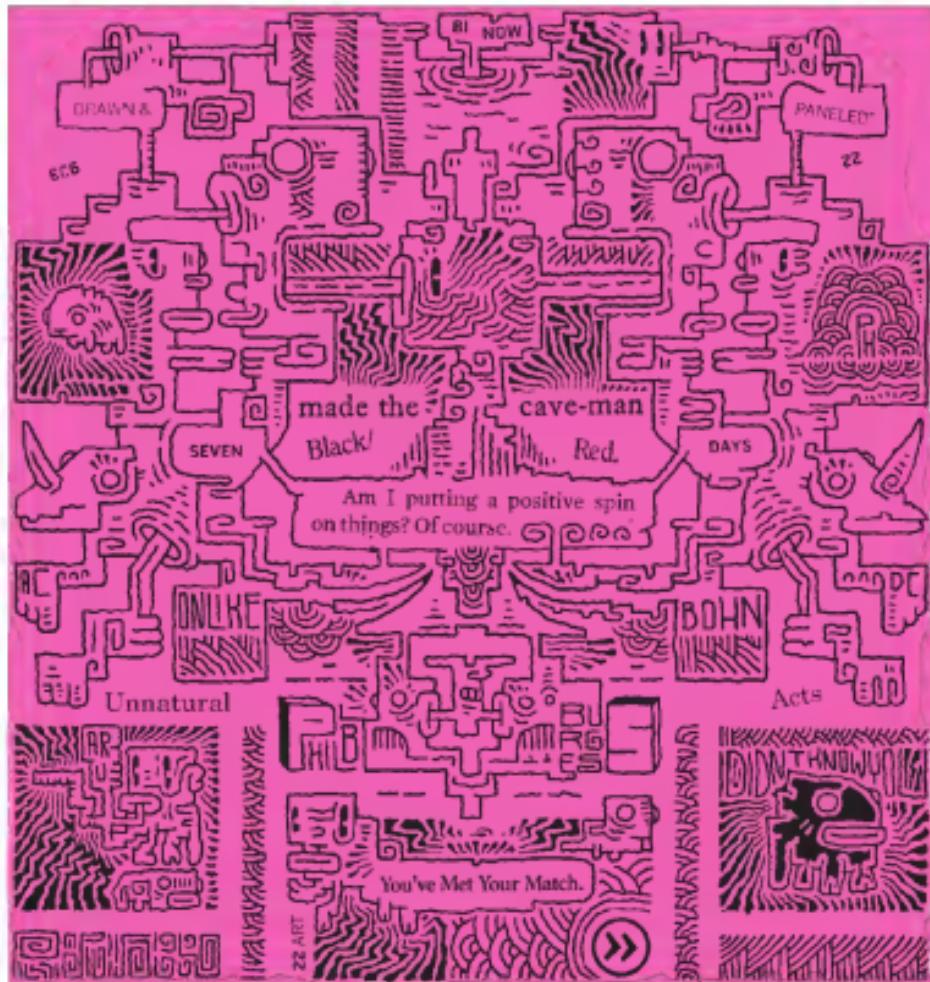


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**JAY PEAK**



Dear Cecil,  
This is an old one, and I'm surprised it didn't turn up when I did a search on your site. It has to do with boiling frogs. Does something like this: If you toss a frog into already-boiling water, it would leap out. If a frog placed into a pan of water with a lone flame under it will slowly be boiled alive, the temperature change being too subtle for the frog to notice. This is exactly what is occurring today with the breakdown of moral values. The boiling bubbles are rising all around us, and few people realize what is taking place.

James Wilkins



We were glad to get your letter, James, for three reasons:  
(1) We feel it's our stated duty to fact-check common parables, maxims, etc. No disrespect, but if it'd been an email from a certain Middle Eastern locality 2000 years ago that hit with the lures and fishes would have gotten more respect than it did. (2) The story behind this much addle-to is so bizarre it's a column all by itself. (3) Best of all, there was an experiment accompanying it.

I looked at Dina. She emphatically shook her head.

"But Dina," I said, "We're the Straight Dope. People write in like these short of all passes at the New Yorker. We get our heads dirty!"

She glared. "You don't get your hands dirty?" she said. "I

got my hands dirty. Look. I've prepared my grime with sloshed whisky to determine whether whisky makes a good hypnotic. I've blazed bacon with a laser. I've blazed deerhead in six brown bottles prevent appendage better than cleavers. But no way am I boiling my office frogs."

"You don't actually have to boil them, Dina. You just have to warm them up a little. I have total confidence that, except legend notwithstanding, the frogs will jump out before my permanent damage is done."

"See," she retorted, "I only have to inflict a modest amount of torture on hapless research subjects, after which I've got a kitchen full of hot, powdery frogs."

I conceded these pointed

difficulties. After further negotiations, I was agreed to a more limited research program at the lab and came back with the following conclusion:

The first reference to boiling frogs for science comes from a German researcher named Goetz, who in 1869 set out to discover — get ready for this — the location of the frog's soul. For Goetz's purposes, "soul" meant the part of the frog that would sense danger and rappel it to escape impending death. So he immersed (in a blotted but otherwise intact frog) and a decapitated frog in water, and gradually raised the temperature to see how each would react.

At 77 degrees Fahrenheit the largely intact frog stayed to get acrossable, but 100 degrees it was desperately trying to escape the bath; and at 104 degrees it fled. From a few reflex twitches, the decapitated and basically dead frog was reactive, unaprilately to anyone but Goetz. The problem with this experiment, other than its being hideously callous, was that the total heating time was only ten minutes, hardly a slow increase.

In 1872, another German, named Hensmann, decided to conduct the definitive experiment on the subject.

Hensmann raised both barnacles and blotted frogs and found that when the temperature was increased slowly enough — from 20 to 100 degrees over 80 to 95 minutes — the blotted frog would indeed die of heat exhaustion without a struggle.

In 1873, yet another German

researcher one Frischler confirmed Hensmann's results. Curiously however, Frischler and Hensmann had the same supervisor. I make no claims but so far as I can corroborate those interesting findings. Then again, neither she nor him may have.

- On a related subject, psychologist Edward Scripture in 1877 conducted a grisly experiment where a frog's foot was clamped in a screw press that was tightened about a thousandth of an inch per minute. Break! The foot was completely crushed without the frog showing any distress. Somewhat worryingly, the author wondered what could be accomplished using humans rather than frogs.

Getting back to boiling, modern commentators agree the results claimed by the German researchers are preposterous. However, no one to my knowledge has attempted to precisely replicate the earlier work, possibly because they haven't read the studies, which are written in (dead) German. In the experiments I've come across, researchers have placed frogs in water and heated it relatively quickly till the frogs jumped out, failing to recognize that the point of the exercise was to heat the water gradually. (Typically the gas turned up its rate of two degrees per minute, about six times faster than Hensmann did it.)

So I think the story is a crack! Of course Am I likely to prove this beyond a doubt? About a change of heart by Dina, no.

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## Drunk Love

**W**hoa, bud — let me help you get those legs!"

The driver was helping his well-lubricated customer — about to become man — into the backseat of my taxi. This writer, from one of the top Burlington restaurants, calls me when one of the patrons needs a ride. During the phone call for this pickup, he told me the guy was going to Westfield, a case 20-mile east on an otherwise quiet Burlington weekend.

Once he was settled, I caught the fellow's eye at the receiver mirror and confirmed: "You going to Westfield, right?"

When dealing with the patently-crazed, we learned the best way was a calm need to keep things as clear as possible.

"Yeah," he replied. "You gonna house?"  
"Uh, that's exactly what I'm gonna do. We're gonna take I-89 into the turns, and you can pull me over there!"

"Yeah," he affirmed, letting out a big, boozey laugh.

Not really brimming with confidence, I shifted into drive, and off we went. The guy was dressed all Westfield cool: pastel-green crew-neck shirt, blue jeans, new blue jeans and some kind of messy accessories. Michael — perhaps a mix of silver and gold — could have been modeled on a Greek statue. Tastefully challenged as it was, the fancy looks made me a bit queasy.

Carefully monitoring the backseat for signs of passing out... perch the thought — rammed. Trashed through the night. As we rolled onto the Grey Highway, the man blurted out, "Are you fucking kidding? Where the hell are we? I will not be fucked!"

Now I had a very specific decision to make: How would I handle this customer? There are two basic strategies: get tough on the customer or honor him. I don't take

this stuff personally; my role sits in situations like this is to pretty the offender and return to apathy to the meter stick.

"OK, budhead," I spoke steadily. "I know you've had a lot to drink but that's no excuse to get abusive with me. Any more cussing like that and you're out of the cab — you got that?"

"Uh, yeah," he answered sheepishly. "You sorry. I appreciate you driving me."

The right-second change in attitude was startling and welcome. When we reached Westfield, I asked him above to max. He passed straight ahead, nod. I complied. A few minutes later, he said, "Where are my keys?"

"They're in Westfield," I replied, reasoning: cheaper, though it seemed the fare was quickly going south.

"I need to go to Montpelier, Vt. That's where I live. It's off the Northway."

"Great," I said. "There was nothing else I planned by reviewing with the dude how we ended up in Westfield. I would simply reverse course and take him to Westport. The specificity of "near 32" gave me confidence that this new destination was the real deal. My only concern — one I had before, but which now jumped to the forefront — was payment.

"Do you have cash, or do we need to stop at an ATM?" I asked. "The fare to Westport is roughly \$340."

"We have to stop at an ATM," he replied. I parked over to MRKO and, on Route 2, pulled into the TD Bank. While the guy did his thing at the ATM, I took the opportunity to infinite (is some handy button). All

my life is as much like Lord Thesaurus's of "Drunken Abbey"; I marvel at it, I peep. The guy took a while, but he came back chattering a boatload of references. He got into the shotgun seat and began pressing them to me, one by one. I made him stop when he got to \$100. "Hey, thanks," I said. "That's a log enough tip."

"I really appreciate you taking me home," he repeated. "You are a cable guy."

I thought about his use of the word "cable." After all, I do this for a living. When I get a hair tear, I think my haircutter and tell her I appreciate it. I don't think of last cutting my hair as a cable act, but I find the show of gratitude, particularly the money part.

As we crossed the underpass in the moonlight, my customer said, "Hey, where's Cookie?"

"Cookie?" I said, entering the bantering phase of our relationship. "I know where the heck Cookie is."

We hit the Guard. I lie forty feet past it where they're loading. On the 12-minute crossing, the love fest let me go on camera. Draping his arm around my shoulder, my passenger said, "My name is Theodore, but everyone calls me Teddy. And I got to tell ya, I really appreciate you driving me home tonight. You are one noble guy."

"Well thank you so much, Teddy."

"Me and Cookie are going through a rough patch. I really love her, though."

"Really rough," I thought. I said, "Teddy, Cookie won't meet with you in Burlington tonight, would she?"

"Yeah, I don't know where she is."

The mutual rough patch is about to get

a little rougher, I thought, but didn't say a word.

We got on the Northway heading south. Teddy thanked me every 10 minutes, in drunk-lover fashion. By sheer persistence, he finally convinced me of my nobility. Yippee and the End of Discourse.

At Exit 30, we turned off the highway and steered toward the town of Westport. "So do you know many of Cookin's friends?" Teddy asked slightly more sober but still happy.

"No, I can't say I do. I'd like to meet 'em, though."

"Well, this summer you want come and visit. I have a beautiful, 23-foot Chris-Craft and we'll gross boating. I mean it."

"That's a date, Teddy!" I said. And wholeheartedly we recited the dubious verbiage "I'll see you in June."

I dropped my customer at his home on the lake, and reckoned who would be faster to return to Burlington via the Champlain Bridge. It was my first time on the newly constructed bridge, and I was not too sure.

Along the peninsula approach, the sun glowed like the glassine like a silver bow however, strung the dark water. When I reached its grand arc, I slowed to a crawl. To my left and right, the supporting cables flamed giant, thin strings with brilliant white lights. The thought crossed my mind that I might come out the other side into a new and angry discussion — which, as far as most of describes what Vermont has been in my life. ☺

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# Big-Hearted Broker

Commercial real estate Yves Bradley makes good community connections

BY KEN PICARD

In 2004, Yves Bradley of Burlington knew virtually nothing about commercial real estate. That didn't stop him from approaching Erie Pomerleau, of Pomerleau Real Estate, to ask for a job. Today, Bradley heads the company's commercial brokerage division. Despite the sharp downturn in 2008, Pomerleau says 2011 was the company's best year ever for commercial brokerage.

"That speaks volumes about Yves," says Pomerleau. "It wouldn't shock me if he were the No. 1 commercial broker in the state."

Indeed. Most of all the new tenants moving into the 165,000-square-foot Innovation Center of Vermont, a space formerly occupied by General Dynamics' Thales, were Bradley's deals. Seven of the 15 of the 70,000-square-foot Boston Catholic Diocese of Vermont building on North Avenue in Burlington. The new Panera Bread on Church Street, the relocated Bluebell Tavern on St. Paul Street, and El Corral Taqueria Cantina in the old Eddie Rabb Deli? All Bradley's doing.

He's not just about for-profit businesses, either. When Planned Parenthood, Spectrum Youth & Family Services, HOPE Works (formerly the Women's Rape Crisis Center), and the Stern Center for Language and Learning needed more space, they all turned to Bradley.

If any local businessperson could put the lie to the expression "Slow guys don't last," it's him. Among Chittenden County nonprofits, Bradley has earned a reputation as the go-to guy for getting things done — often rapping little or no financial gain or public recognition for his trouble.

"Yves, in a lot of ways, is a visionary," says Carolyn Wilson, executive director of HOPE Works. "He's been an amazing ambassador for our organization. He's so articulate when he talks about sexual violence and men's role in ending it."

In 2006, Wilson says, Bradley was instrumental in finding her organization its new headquarters — no small task for Vermont's largest rape crisis center, with a laundry list of prerequisites. WRCC needed a location on a bus line, new downtown, with ample office and meeting space but also with a warm,



YVES BRADLEY

homely feel. And the organization had just \$100,000 to get started.

"Yves said, 'OK, let's do it,'" Wilson says. Bradley delivered. A year later, WRCC moved into a newly renovated, 1,600-square-foot Victorian at the North Avenue, which it purchased at \$150,000 below market value, with a zero-interest loan for two years.

Little surprise that WRCC offered

Bradley a spot on its board, making him the organization's first-ever male trustee (Today, it has several).

Indeed, the HOPE Works board is just one of many boards and committees on which Bradley serves. Others include the Burlington Planning Commission, the Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce, the South End Arts and Business Association, the Chittenden

Commercial Real Estate Association, and the Community Sailing Center.

For Bradley, such positions aren't about ego or titles. When the Community Sailing Center flooded in May 2011, he had replacement office space lined up within 24 hours.

"He doesn't even own a boat!" says Pomerleau with a laugh. "He has the biggest heart I've ever seen. And his clients love him because they trust him and they know he produces."

"It's crazy, but I can't say no," Bradley says of his extensive volunteerism. "I like doing things that make a place better."

Ironically, generosity wasn't Mark Redmond's first impression of Bradley when Redmond moved to Burlington in 2003. At the momentous debut of Spectrum Youth & Family Services, Redmond remembers asking the outgoing director to move the organization's sharpest critic.

His answer: Bradley, who at the time ran the Old Shop by the Marketplace with his wife, Judy. Evidently, many Church Street businessespeople had had run-ins with teens whom they assumed to be Spectrum clients.

Citing the old Godfather adage, "Keep your friends close but your enemies closer," Redmond says he wrote Bradley a long letter inviting him to a meeting to air their differences. According to Redmond, Bradley was pleasantly surprised to hear from him and arranged a lunch meeting at Lenny's that included several downtown police officers. (For years, Bradley also served on the Burlington Police Commission.)

"So I listened to what he had to say and tried to listen to what I had to say, and over time it really worked out," Redmond recalls. The following Christmas season, Bradley created a "giving tree" to his shop window, where parents could donate gifts for Spectrum's clients.

Today, Bradley and Redmond will talk about their first encounter. And Bradley will still call Redmond when, say, someone donates University of Vermont hockey tickets to his office, preferring that Spectrum's kids use them instead.

"He does a lot of nice little stuff like that," Redmond adds. "I think the world of the guy."

# BURTON FLAGSHIP STORE SHRED SALE

Now with even more slash.

**Y**ves Bradley hasn't made many bad business decisions in his life, but he admits to a few whoppers. About a decade ago, when he was still co-owner of the Body Shop, he had an opportunity to buy the domain name bodyshop.com for \$500. Bradley, who probably could have sold the name several years later for a five- or even six-figure sum, turned it down.

There's another lucrative missed opportunity he doesn't regret, back in 1995, when he was 25. Bradley landed an interview for an investment banker position at BofA of Boston. The company was paying recent college grads \$100,000 a year to attend its executive training program. Bradley, who had just returned from a year abroad, went to Michael Kors' men's shop on Church Street and bought himself a gray suit, white shirt and tie.

Bradley aced the interview. Then his potential bosses introduced him to others in the program, who were also in their twenties.

"I can still see it now," Bradley says. "They're all wearing grey suits, white shirts and red ties, too. I start getting headache."

When he got the formal offer, Bradley balked. "I'd be laughing recalling the impinged look on his interviewers' faces — and, later, on his parents'

Bradley admits it was "a very bad business decision but a very good life decision." It just wasn't right for me." In the ensuing years, he learned to trust both his head and his heart when making important life decisions.

Bradley, 46, defies the usual success-story stereotype. With his ready smile and friendly, roll-with-it attitude, he exudes a genuine warmth and interest in the people to whom he's speaking, extending them more time and attention than one would expect from someone so busy.

Despite his French first name — it rhymes with "leaves" — Bradley is not of Québécois ancestry. His mother is British, and Bradley himself speaks fluent French. His American father is a classics professor at Dartmouth College.

When he was a child, his family lived briefly in Thetford Center and East Thetford before moving to Athens, Greece, for a few years. Bradley spent the rest of his childhood at Massawippi

NH, which he remembers as "a great place to be a kid but 'more like a prison'" when he became a teen.

Bradley attended UVM and majored in political science. After graduating in 1985, he landed a yearlong internship in Paris with François Léotard, a prominent centrist who later became France's minister of culture. "He was like a Kennedy," Bradley recalls.

After a year working for the French government, Bradley was offered a job by the French designer Fernand Roizard. As he would again in 1998, he made a lifestyle decision. Having spent the previous summer as a lifeguard in Nantucket, which was "absolute paradise for someone right out of college," he chose a career over a business suit. As he puts it, "I knew I'd never get another chance to be this much of a bum ever again."

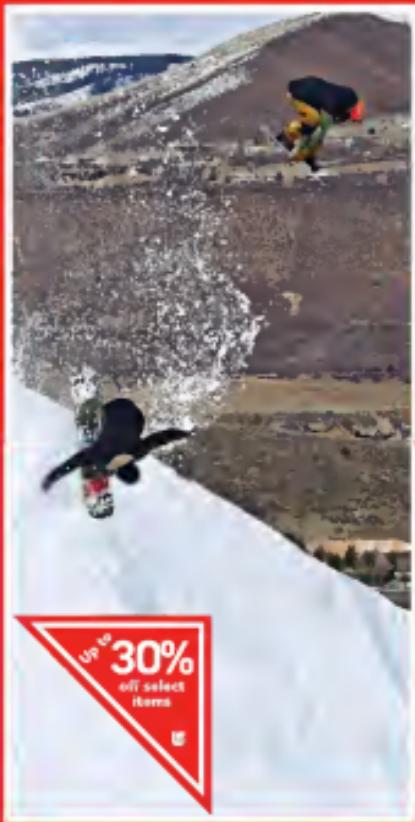
Well, yes and no. Back in Burlington, Bradley worked several odd jobs, including health-club trainer, UPS driver and delivery man for Dianetics. Once he delivered a pizza to a brick house at the corner of Bowdoin and South Willard streets, which resembled this of his grandfather's home. One day, he recalls saying to himself at the time, "I'll buy that house." Bradley, Judy and their sons, Will, 11, and Ethan, 8, live there today.

In 1998, Bradley and a friend decided to go into business together



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## **Big-Hearted Broker**

painting job. His problem was, "No one knew us from Adam, so we couldn't get any work." Undeterred, Bentley approached the manager of Session Mountain and made him a business proposition. He offered to paint the



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BECAUSE THEY TRUST HIM AND  
THEY KNOW HE PRODUCES.**

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smallest lift on the mountain for free if the manager paid for the parts. If the owner liked their work, he'd pay them for their labor, too.

"So we painted that lift, and, by the end of the summer, we painted every ski lift at Stratton Mountain," Bradley recalls. He and his partner owned that business until 1991, when Bradley got ..."

Yves and Judy Bradley first applied for the Body Shop franchise in 1989. At the time, the company's higher-ups weren't interested in "newcomer," but Bradley kept pestering them. By the fall of 1992, when the company announced it was ready to pick franchises far Burlington, Bradley assumed they were a lock.

However, when the couple arrived at the Sheraton Burlington Hotel one Saturday morning for an interview, they were greeted by 40 other people applying to be franchisees.

The Bradleys' interview went great, and Yves recalls going home thinking they had it. Two weeks later, he got a phone-call from Judy and Jim, who said the Body Shop had picked four finalists for second interviews — and they were fifth so far.

Bridley sat down at a typewriter and pounded out a long, emphatic letter explaining why he thought the company had made a huge mistake. A week later, Yvonne and Judy were invited to Toronto for another interview. And another, in New Jersey.

The Bradleys finally opened their store, at 31 Church Street, on June 3, 1994. They worked there for 10 years. His interest in commercial real estate was sparked when the couple decided, rather than opening a second store in Manchester, to buy the building they occupied. They sold the Body Shop back to the company in 2005. Bradley has been with Bradbury's ever since.

Has he ever thought of starting yet another career? With a network like his and a vast network of connections in Chittenden County, Bradley would be an obvious candidate for public office. In fact, people of all political stripes approach him to run "all the time," he says.

"Tom DeGroat asked me point-blank last year to run for mayor," he reveals. Bradley answered the megovernor by mailing an anecdote from his youth back then, "garbage kids would leave burning bags of dog shit on front porches, so whoever came outside would step all over them."

"That's the new mayor of Burlington," Bradley says. "Not for me, thanks."

"In Burlington," Bradley explains, "you can get a lot more accomplished by being active in the community behind the scenes."

"Besides," he adds, "I love going to work in the morning, and my days part by why would I give that up?" ☺



London Books

Page 1

PaulEustachy.com

element

REVIEW

10

#### Postdoctoral Fellowships

A photograph showing a group of people in a gym or fitness studio. They are all wearing athletic gear and are performing a synchronized exercise, possibly a plank variation, in a line. The background shows gym equipment like treadmills and a window with a view of the outdoors.

# Rooms to Grow

A refurbished block — and new hotel — will soon take shape in downtown Burlington

BY KEN PICARD

**F**rom the late 19th century until the mid-20th, the blockatty corner from Burlington's City Hall Park, at the corner of Main and St. Paul streets, was a mecca for visitors to the Queen City. The block was home to the Van Ness House, a 400-room hotel owned at one time by former Vermont governor and Supreme Court chief justice Cornelius P. Van Ness. For more than a half century, the Van Ness House was Burlington's largest and most elegant hotel, with architecture resembling that found in New Orleans' French Quarter.

But in 1956, the Van Ness House was razed by a fire. It was never rebuilt and, since then, the downtown block bordered by Main, St. Paul, King and Pine streets has had considerably less prestige and luster. Today, it's commonly referred to as the TD Bank block for its most prominent feature. Current visitors and residents are most likely to stop there to access its 24-hour ATM, which is conveniently located just steps away from Church Street.

City planners and developers have long bemoaned the underutilization of that prime downtown real estate. In fact, until the rehabilitation of the 16-condominium Hins Lofts at 181 St. Paul in 2004 and the completion of the new Champlain Housing Trust building at 85 King Street in 2004, most of the block was little more than a surface parking lot.

That's all about to change. Planners are now working their way through the development-review process to complete the final phase of the TD Bank block's decadelong renovation: the construction of a modern, four-story hotel just by a major national chain. The new 120-to-140-room hotel will also incorporate the historic Armory building, at 184 Main, which sits at the eastern end of the block. Interestingly, the Armory, which was rehabilitated in 2007, was built by the same man — another former Vermont governor — who built the Van Ness House. Urban Woodbury Many Burlingtonians will remember it fondly as the former quarters of liquor's Mid-Milting Company, a popular establishment, which after its closing was replaced by the faux-Sir John Sh-Sh-Sh's.



Doug Noddle is one of the three partners at Redstone Commercial Group, along with Erik Heekstra and Larry Williams, who have been working on this project since 2008. Its final phase was slated to begin four years ago, Noddle notes — until the global economic meltdown of 2008 brought

most commercial construction of this size to a standstill.

Noddle, whose firm was also behind the Hins Lofts and the Champlain Housing Trust building, sees this new hotel as the crowning achievement for the TD Bank block. The new hotel will be designed to combine the best of both

worlds: the modern look of a boutique hotel in a urban setting and the historic feel of old Burlington, embodied by the Armory. The latter will house the hotel's reception area, restaurant, lounge, bar, library and floors.

"The strength of our site and location is the Armory," Noddle says. "We're really leveraging this beautiful historic building on Main Street and building off of that."

According to Noddle, Redstone plans to keep much of the Armory's interior intact, including the exposed brick and steel beams and trusses. Those features will sharply contrast with the modern, urban sensibility of the new hotel, which will occupy much of the corner of the block. The hotel's porte cochere, or covered driveway, will meet Heekstra's off-Main Street adjacent to the Armory.

As it possible, will this project spark controversy, even organized neighborhood opposition? It's always possible, Noddle admits, but unlikely in this case. Some growth advocates have long argued that new development in Vermont should start in places where it can minimize impact on the natural landscape and maximize the use of existing infrastructure — in a word, as much. And few sectors of Burlington are more ideally suited to infill redevelopment than the TD Bank block.

Indeed, when Mayor Bob Ballo and other city leaders held a press conference two weeks ago to urge voter approval of a \$10 million tax increment financing (TIF) district for downtown, the block was one of the first locales they pointed to as a potential home for such public-private partnerships.

But even if the TIF doesn't pass — the results were not in at press time — this \$20 million project is likely to proceed without much resistance. As Noddle points out, current zoning allows Redstone to build an even bigger building than the one they've proposed, which will be shorter than the historic Van Ness House directly across the street at the corner of Main and St. Paul.

The limiting factor on the use isn't zoning or neighbor opposition but getting Heekstra says. Simply put, adding more rooms and space to the new hotel would require the developer to



build an even larger underground parking garage than the 20-space structure they're currently proposed. And that, he says, would put them dangerously close to the underground water table.

Rodnicks current plans include a unique aesthetic approach to the parking structure. Because one floor will be at street level on St. Paul, the developers plan to block the exterior view of the garage with storefront-type windows that will serve as "mini art galleries." They've even proposed working with Burlington City Arts to offer gallery space to local artists.

"I think it's really interesting the way they've taken into consideration the surroundings they will impact to minimize the visual impact," says Kelly Dorris, director of the Burlington Business Association.

From a city planning perspective, the new hotel will accomplish two more often-stated goals for future development downtown: creating a strong link between the Church Street Marketplace and the waterfront, and bringing more visitors to lower Main Street.

Is the demand adequate to support an influx of new hotel rooms in downtown Burlington? Obviously so. According to Nidle's market research, the downtown Burlington hotel market has consistently remained sold — one of the strongest in New England — even during serious economic downturns. Perhaps that's not surprising, given the baseline need for overnight rooms created by the University of Vermont, Champlain College and Fletcher Allen Health Care. With the exception of the Merriott's 182-room Courtyard Burlington Harbor, which was completed in 2009, a new

hotel hasn't gone up in downtown Burlington since the mid-1970s. Now two are in the works: Gov. Peter Shumlin broke ground last September on Hotel Vermont at 81 Cherry Street, a 122-room establishment scheduled to open in 2013.

Like Hotel Vermont, this one will incorporate green building practices, according to Nidle, who says the structures will be built according to LEED — or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design — silver or gold standards. He admits Resstone doesn't plan to spend the extra money to get the plaque and formal LEED certification. "But the standards will be the same," he says.

As for the timeline, Rocklawn says the project has just entered the "stretch phase" phase, which is a "zooming in" way of introducing the conceptual idea to the development, renovation board and other boards before the formal permitting process begins.

Assuming everything goes according to schedule, construction is expected to last 16 months, with the new hotel slated to open in late winter or early spring of 2014. That would be ideal timing, Nidle adds, with the approach of college graduations. The staff of any hotel of this size will want 30 to 50 days to "work out the kinks."

In terms of job creation, Rocklawn says the company is projecting upward of 200 construction jobs and about 80 permanent jobs in the hotel itself. A restaurant in the Armory would add another 30 or more jobs.

"I think it's a win-win for downtown Burlington," Nidle says, "both aesthetically and economically." ☐

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# One Man's Trash

Vermont's "Storage Wars" bring out the bidders

BY KATHRYN FLASS



**A**uctioneer Paul Maglio casts an eye over the ragged heap of bidders congregating in the cold mud-slosh alley of a Winooski auction facility.

"Fair warning," he calls out in his Massachusetts accent. Then "Sell!"

It's a Wednesday morning at about 9 a.m., and some 50 bidders have shown up from around the region to gamble on the contents of abandoned self-storage units. Some are pro: New Hampshire resident Stephen Salomon pulled up with a small ensemble in a black SUV painted with his company's name, 268 Sales. Others are hobbyists: Some are just curious.

Mostly all of them are hoping to turn a profit by snapping up the contents of abandoned storage units and reselling them at a higher rate. It's a practice that's caught on as people look for creative ways to supplement their incomes, and a popular reality television show is ostensibly showing the way.

Magliocco runs the ground rules, and he makes it clear: Cash is king. So with empty parking lots filling in with Vermont residents Rodney Moore and his friend, Phillip (driving originally from Plaistowville, N.H.), Ortega is living in Vermont while his wife works in a movie in Springfield.

Moore, the queen of the middle-aged dad, is the old hand, and he's been showing the gregarious Ortega the ropes for a few months. While we wait for the auction to start, the men joke around with some of the other bidders. Ortega is a teacher and coach, but, now out of work, he's taken up the auction circuit.

"It gets in your blood," Ortega says in his thick Southern drawl. "It's ridiculous. I don't have a job right now and I know."

This morning, Mr. Winooski, and those on to him for a total of nine units on the auction calendar, the many bidders will travel far afield in pursuit of a good buy. "Are you going to Lynn?" Maglio asks one regular. Maglio is employed by Storage Auction Solutions and conducts auctions for storage facilities all over the Northeast. The Hispanic auctioneer next day is a big one — 15 units.

In Winooski, our first survivor of the day is a small unit, one of the employees of Casey Storage Solutions unlocks the door and Maglio calls out, "Get a look, get a look, get a look." The bidders shuffle past in single file. We're allowed to look but not touch, and we can't touch the door,



disarray. I see a few boxes of what look to be books and CDs, some trash, a mound of clothing. It looks pretty dismal.

But when we step to the side, things and Moore pull their heads together and begin comparing notes in hushed tones. They noticed a few unreturned cases, which I had missed entirely. Still, it's a small unit, and they are there selling low. When the short spurt of bidding stops out at \$250, there's a "July shot" from the crowd behind me.

"That should have been a \$50 bid," Ortega explains.

Nationally, industry watchers such

as Lance Walker, who founded the website StorageTreasures.com, say the number of people attending auctions is up dramatically. It's no different in Vermont. Walker attributes that in large part to the popularity of a TV show called "Storage Wars" on A&E.

In Winooski, everyone seems to have an opinion about the show, which debuted in 2010. "Storage Wars" follows a handful of profane-sounding auctioneers in California. Its second season premiering in July 2011 was the channel's highest-rated episode of the year.

The Vermont bidders have something

of a love-hate relationship with the TV show. Most are mid-victims and kid about their competitors being "Dime" or a "Star" or one of the reality show's other stars. They also complain, though, that the show isolates the auction experience. Some, like Salomon, think the auctions are staged. They gripe that the publicity attracts nobodies who get caught up in the excitement of bidding and driving prices.

"You have to be an eagle eye and know what price is looking for," Ortega advises. Then again, "A lot of it's unknown." There's no impossible to even guess what might be hiding in the crowded units or mysterious

bottom. A buyer might open one-unit to find a valuable cash collection, only to purchase another lot and discover a barebones paper-and-pencil record of a dealership.

"That's among the strongest stems that O'Dell has found in a unit."

Most popular residents and frequent visitors—over 700 who've discovered the concealed locations of bodies in other units—have heartbreaking reminders, he says, of just how personal these belongings can be.

But there are occasional big wins. Moore bought the contents of one unit that contained a brand-new washer and dryer. His estimate is he nabbed \$3000 worth of merchandise for a \$1000 bid. Sometimes strange items have value that the bidder might never have predicted. Moore's a Fleischer—the 1948 invention that creates clever attachment means for cutting hair—for \$42.

"I was going in there at the trials," he says, shaking his head a bit. "You never know."

Another auction-goer paid off this service-free in line of one unit. "It's a little like the lottery. Except with some waste thrown in."

That's because bidders see on the hook for emptying out the units they purchase, often within 24 hours. "That ensures the good, the bad and the ugly," Moore warns. The only items buyers can and should leave behind are personal papers such as photographs or tax returns, a rule strictly intended to protect against identity theft.

The self-storage industry is big business in the United States. According to one trade group, it's grown to more than \$20 billion in annual revenue in 2010, and the Self Storage Association says self-storage has been the fastest-growing segment of the commercial real estate industry over the last 10 years.

Plus, the trade group boasts that the industry is privately recession-proof. One analyst told the *Wall Street Journal* that the foreclosure crisis has boosted demand for storage space as families move into smaller rental units.

Curiously, though, storage-unit auctions are not all-for-one live auctions.

"Because of the economy, it makes sense to think that delinquencies and foreclosures would be going up, but they have been decreasing," Melkis says.

Sales happen only after renters fall behind on their rent. According to Veneczel's law, less, the storage facility has to fire and send two notices of default to the person's last known address, and then post an advertisement

for the sale in a

newspaper for

two consecutive

weeks. Only then

can the facility

remove the contents

of the unit.

Most bidders

focus on the stuff,

not the people behind

the mill — though occasionally there are some elusive reminders. In Westminster, the manager processes open one of the rental doors and suddenly sees bidders looking at a collection of household goods, most of it a child's belongings. One box is stacked.

"Dylan's things," and says Dylan's stocking

with Dylan's name

printed across the top.

O'Dell recently had trouble moving children's stuff at the New Hampshire storage house where he rents goods. That may be why he passes on this one. The rental goes for \$25 in Duane O'Dell of Armona, Vt., who started attending auctions about six months ago out of curiosity.

"Anybody that tries to make a living

doing this is crazy," O'Dell tells me. Before today he'd bought 25 or 30 units by his estimate. By the end of the morning he'd added them more to the list. He's seen dead rodents and live rodents — not a big deal, his day job is in the animal control business — and even seen that one out of every three units contains pornography.

Still, "it's sort of like Christmas morning," O'Dell says of his new hobby. "You never know what you're going to get." O'Dell comes

in heavy-duty

flashlight that he uses with every storage unit, and his pockets are

full of a tangle of locks.

After the bidding is complete at each unit, the facility manager unlocks the sliding door down again. The winning bidder must lock up and can't come back to examine the contents until after he's settled up.

Toward the end of the morning, O'Dell brings up the old adage about money. "You have to have it to make it." O'Dell's three units total \$3335, but he estimates that the most expensive — in \$4500-plus — will clear out around \$3500 in resale value. It's one of the older units, and Melkis calls out to the crowd, "A lot of our product, folks. Don't miss the opportunity!"

This, after all, is what keeps people back in storage again and again, opportunity. O'Dell says that in tough economic times it's so important to make a little money, even if the savings are a gamble.

O'Dell looks giddy after his big buy. "I think I need to slow down a little," he says.

He does. Once the Westminster

action is over, everyone piles in their cars and heads south. The same crowd, with the same auctioneer, reconvenes in Burlington, where the group eagerly speculates about the possible contents of a massive shipping container.

"There's probably a Corvette in there," someone jokes. Suddenly it doesn't feel that improbable, because by then the wandering star what does someone store in a unit this size?

Not much, it turns out. Once the door opens, I puzzle at a large stack of what appears to be flooring before Melkis explains that it's part of a bowling alley. The unit goes for \$100, and O'Dell and Melkis agree it's a good buy.

It is possible to make money at this, in fact. Melkis says he makes about \$800 a week. He also buys at estate sales and has been a regular visitor at the Newline flea market for years. O'Dell is newer to the bar and is taking classes to learn more about the value of different kinds of jewelry. Both men try to turn around their purchases quickly. Some items go to consignment shops or eBay and many are doled out at the New Hampshire auction house, that Moore and O'Dell frequent.

For today, the men leave empty-handed, and don't succeed in the frenzy of last-minute bidding that drives one among worthless unit up to \$300.

I get conflicting advice from Moore: You have to be efficient. But you have to take some gamble. But most of all, he says, wait slow.

"If you get right into it you'll start piling stuff up instead of turning stuff over," he says. And that's a recipe for ending up on another ABC classic: the TV show "Blingdale." ☐

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PHOTO BY JEFFREY STONE

# This Land Is Your Land

Mobile-home owners find cooperatives the way to roll

BY PAUL HEINTZ



Residents of the St. Albans Acres mobile-home park in St. Albans, Vt., protest Jan. 1, 2012.

For years, Henry Benedict and his neighbors battled the owner of the Swanton mobile-home park where they live. They fought over rent increases. They fought over water and sewage fees. They fought over maintenance issues.

Then, one day last May, Benedict and the 25 other families who live in the Homestead Acres mobile-home park received letters in the mail saying the owner was putting the 50-acre property up for sale. So they did something crazy. They formed a co-op and bought the place themselves.

"Everything happened real fast for us," says Benedict, who works for the town of Swanton's recreation department. "There was no time to think about it."

When the newly named Homestead Acres Cooperative closed on the property in December, it joined the leading edge of a national movement by helping tens of thousands of mobile-home residents buy the properties on which they live. Last month, a mobile-home park in Milner, just west of Homestead Acres and a park in Windsor to become the third cooperatively owned park established in Vermont in recent years.

The emerging trend is a significant

development for the nearly 7000 Vermont families who live in mobile-home parks. While 40 percent of them own their parkings, 70 percent live in fee-park parks where they have little leverage over the rent they pay for their lots. Despite the name, mobile-home owners aren't all cheap or easy to move, so when rent goes up or the park changes hands, residents are left hoping for the best.

"We're kind of stuck here," says Benedict, sitting on a recliner in the living room of the 10-by-12 foot house he purchased a decade ago. "If you live in a trailer, you can't just pick up and move."

Candy Shembra, a neighbor of Benedict's and a cashier at the St. Albans Hannaford, witnessed a conflict across the counter and pushed one of Benedict's opponents from her shoulder.

"We are stuck here," she agrees. "But now we're making a better, so we don't mind being stuck here."

The way Benedict tells it, the story of Homestead Acres is that of a bunch of disenfranchised neighbors who fought their landlord in individual cases for years without much success. Only when they banded together and formed a community association did they realize they had the power to demand fair treatment.

"Our on-site [the property owner] always seemed to win. When we formed an organization, it looked like we were winning a little more," Benedict says.

Dan Sheehan, a neighbor who works at the St. Albans Rest+Gardens, says, "Before long, we became a pain in [the property owner's] rear. If we didn't want to deal with it, when he realized he had 28 people to deal with instead of one or two at a time, he decided he got in over his head and decided to sell the park."

John Wilking, who co-owns the park and whose company, Neptune Companies, managed it, disagrees with his former tenants on most counts. He says he treated them fairly, followed the letter of the law and did not raise rent excessively. But he does agree that the arrangement just wasn't working out.

"Mobile-home park residents are about the most difficult residential tenants you can possibly have. Everyone has a story and people don't want to pay rent on time. I've been dealing with those stories for 12 or 13 years, and I won a little fed up with them," says Wilking, who still owns three other parks in Vermont. "It was a good arrangement, but it was time to go. We had been really good boy scouts but lost our

nothing but pain in return. So it was time to go."

Thanks to strong tenant-protection laws in Vermont, near the modulus of Homestead Acres learned of Wilking's intention to sell, they had 45 days to seek decide whether they wanted to seek out a nonprofit buyer — or to purchase the place themselves. Working with the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity, a mobile-home Project, they learned about the co-op model and decided to pursue it.

An Sheehan recalls, "We first thought there were some people who stood back and gawked at us because they knew and understood the whole security thing, making sure we weren't going to be belly flopping and blowing a whole lot of money."

But, working with CYOID, the residents were able to draw on the expertise and, more importantly, the capital provided by a pair of out-of-state organizations working to replicate the success of a New Hampshire program that has converted 180 mobile-home parklets on-site since 1994.

Sarah Woodward, of CYOID's Mobile Home Project, explains that for years owners were limited by evictions whose



BENJAMIN RICHARDSON

parks went on the market, typically her office would help find a nonprofit housing organization willing to buy the park in question. In recent years, those organizations have been pulling back from mobile-home parks.

In September 2016, when the founder HHI Mobile Home Park in Winooski was faced with closure, CVCOB decided to explore the possibility of supporting the co-op model in Vermont. It sought assistance from the Massachusetts-based Cooperative Development Institute, which provides technical assistance and funds the New Hampshire-based ROC USA, which supplies low-interest loans.

"We knew that we could manage something better than an outsider," says Bond Hansen, a founder HHI resident who helped lead the effort to purchase the community. "We're here; we know what needs to be done, we are things."

When Founder HHI closed the deal in June 2017, becoming Founder HHI Community Cooperative, it became the first mobile-home co-op in Vermont in 18 years — and it would be a model for Hanover Acres as well.

Advocates of the co-op model say the benefits are myriad:

"First and foremost is, it's a pretty much

an autonomous form of achieving some form of rent control," says Jeremiah Ward of the Cooperative Development Institute, and he worked with both the founder HHI and Hanover Acres' communities. "When residents own their own park, if they're going to raise their rents on themselves or for something that's correlated with an actual increase in quality of life."

Typically, every family living in the

increasing new friends, getting the opportunity to raise their voice and use their skills. It's an amazing thing to see," Ward says.

After signaling their intent to buy Hanover Acres' board, Sheehan and Shadrack had 90 days to convince a majority of their neighbors to join the co-op and make an offer.

"We got them just in the nick of time to

say they're fine with that — because they made the decision themselves, and they believe they'll be able to know that figure in the future.

"It's not going to go up. It's only going to go down," Shadrack says.

The experience has brought the community together. Residents are hoping to build regular barbecues and lawn sales this summer. And they're already talking about trying to build a safe place for kids to play in the park — once they take care of more immediate needs, such as replacing the roofs.

"These people are getting together more often, talking more," Benedict says. "People are getting to know each other."

When we left Benedict's trailer and walked between end-of-the-park-to-the-other, he points out a sewage system the community has been working to improve and a pump house that needed new pipes and chlorination. He talks about the community's efforts to fill a couple of vacant lots and the possibility of eventually building a lot more.

It's not very relaxing the park on there own, Benedict says, but it's worth it.

"We were always living on pins and needles down below," Benedict adds. "It's like a sigh of relief because you don't have to worry about a lease coming in the mail saying you're being evicted." □

## WHEN RESIDENTS OWN THEIR OWN PARKS, IF THEY'RE GOING TO RAISE THEIR RENTS ON THEMSELVES, IT'S FOR SOMETHING THAT'S CORRELATED WITH AN ACTUAL INCREASE IN QUALITY OF LIFE.

JEREMIAH WARD, COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

community can choose to buy a membership for a resource fee of anywhere from \$100 to \$500. The allow them a vote on the cooperative's board and a say in rent, maintenance decisions and community rules.

"It's very empowering, because people who may have never met each other before are working alongside one another,

and the rule," Benedict says.

After securing financing from ROC USA, the community purchased Hanover Acres for \$170,000 and closed the deal on December 1. It borrowed an additional \$250,000 as a cushion for immediate maintenance needs and other expenses. And, while rent has increased from \$275 a month to \$365, residents

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# Prophet and Loss

Environmentalist James Howard Kunstler has a new worry: "techno-narcissism"

BY KEVIN J. KELLEY

**R**adical environmentalist James Howard Kunstler shares an Old Testament prophetic streak with radical abolitionist John Brown — who Kunstler evoked in a recent blog post. Just as Brown thundered righteous against slavery and forced to endure a bloody cataclysm, so too does Kunstler call down judgment on today's consumerist and carefree society, which, he predicts, will soon meet its doom.

The author of five novels and 10 nonfiction books, Kunstler, 63, makes his living as a foremost critic of all things suburban. His influential 1994 polemic, *The Geography of Nowhere*, attacked suburbanism on cultural and social as well as environmental grounds. Kunstler drew further criticism last year about the unreasonableness

of automobile dependence in *The Long Emergency* (2005), in which he argues that an approaching scarcity of oil will force Americans to re-create smaller-scale, more self-reliant communities.

In his forthcoming book, *The Mach Magic*, he examines what Kunstler describes as the "techno-narcissists" view that American ingenuity will ward off the worst effects of climate change and produce alternative forms of energy that will allow the country to remain affluent and content.

Artist Dagit interviewed Kunstler by telephone in advance of an upcoming lecture at the University of Vermont entitled "The End of Cheap Energy." He spoke from his home in Greenwich, N.Y., about 15 miles from his former town of residence, Saratoga Springs.

## SEVEN DAYS: Why did you move?

**JAMES HOWARD KUNSTLER:** I found a place with two or three flat acres where there's garden and that's where the writing station of the village of Greenwich, Saratoga was going to expense me.

## SD: You're giving a talk next week at the University of Vermont. What's it about?

**JHK:** It'll lay out the need for new arrangements of daily life that are way beyond what most people can imagine today. I'll examine the crazy idea that we can switch the types of fuels we use and still keep silicon sheet running. I'll attack the notion that we can run Walmart on wind, solar and algae. That's part of the delusion that's very dangerous and is going to get us into a lot of trouble.

The truth is that none of the alternative fuels we know about now will provide us with enough power needed to run all the systems and subsystems required for American life as currently configured. It's impossible, really.

**SD:** But there's all this talk now about vast new reserves of fossil fuels available in shale and in the Canadian tar sands.

**JHK:** It's baloney. It's complete nonsense to think we can become energy independent in terms of oil and gas. The energy from the tar sands is not far in comparison to the way the world uses energy.

The assumption that oil and gas will remain abundant as we can keep living in the same way with other types of energy reflects the delusional thinking that's so prevalent now. And I include the environmental community in that.

Every year I go to the Agape Environmental Forum, which is a gathering of elder figures in the environmental movement. They don't want to talk about making other arrangements, but instead, about how we can keep running on the old system. They don't see that we're going to have to inhabit the landscape very differently than we do at present.

We've spent the last half century contracting an sentence for daily life that has no future. And that fact is going to create an enormous psychological problem. We're so invested in the current arrangement — at every level that the process of letting go will be very hard.

I would characterize our psychological problem as one of techno-narcissism. It's the belief that technology is going to save our skin.

**SD:** You don't think Americans will be driving electric cars some years from now?

**JHK:** There's no way we're going to electrify the current automobile fleet. There will be some electric cars, while some people will be able to get them, but most will become more and more an elite activity that will be greatly restricted to people who can no longer afford it.

We're going to become a less affluent society. It's already happening. Monopolies are going broke, and they won't be able to maintain the fabulously elaborate road systems they've got now. There will be a tragic process whereby some roads just don't get fixed.

The energy problem ties into the capital-formation problem. There will be less capital available for buying cars on installment, which is how most Americans buy them now.

We need walkable communities and much better public transportation. And that had better include conventional railroads, because we're too broke to build high-speed rail.

**SD:** Burlington specifically and Vermont generally see themselves as environmentally progressive. Yet at the same time, there's a lot of resistance to dense development, which would seem to be necessary if we're going to overcome suburban sprawl.

**JHK:** We're going to reach a point where our monolithic planning codes will be completely ignored. Cities won't be able to afford enforcement personnel. Attitudes will necessarily change.

[The 19th-century German philosopher Arthur] Schopenhauer raised the very special charge seven in society. He said radical new ideas are ridiculed at



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time, that they're violently suppressed and eventually they're accepted as self-evident. Well see that unfold with the recognition that suburbs and everything connected with it is a waste of future.

**BURLINGTON, BY THE WAY, ISN'T SPECIAL, AND NEITHER IS SARATOGA. THE OUTSKIRTS OF BURLINGTON LOOK LIKE HACKENSACK.**

JAMES HOWARD KUNSTLER

It's happening with the national retail chain model. We're about to see Sears go out of business. It's not the first, and it won't be the last.

Burlington, by the way, isn't special, and neither is Saratoga. The outskirts of Burlington look like Hackensack.

**SH: What will a gallon of gas cost a year from now?**

JHK: The price of oil will be very volatile. When it goes high enough, it will start to crush economies, which

will lead to huge demand destruction and thus a fall in price.

**SD: What do you think of the efforts of someone like environmentalist Bill McKibben, who led the successful round of protests against the Keystone pipeline that would bring oil from Canadian tar sands to Texas refineries?**

JHK: I'm not sure the Keystone pipeline is in itself all that meaningful. It's mostly of largely symbolic value. But that is not to put down Bill, who I think is a vibrant environmental voice.

**SD: Do you drive a car from Greenwich to west friends in Saratoga?**

JHK: I do drive to Saratoga. There's no other way to get there. We got to drive to Burlington for the same reason. Rail isn't even part of the political discussion in Vermont or anywhere else. Nobody gave a shit about it. The article is "It's all good, as let's go out and get another Ben & Jerry's cone."

**SH: James Howard Kunstler will close his "Future of America's Future in a Aluminum Can" at the End of Cheap Energy" on Wednesday, March 14, at the University of Vermont's Davis Center 7:30 p.m. Free and open to the public.**

**Q&A: Center for Resources and Renewables is holding a series of talks on the future of energy. Complete schedule at [www.crrvt.org](http://www.crrvt.org).**

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# On the Block

Fancy a toque? These eateries are looking for new owners.

BY CORIN HIRSCH

**I**t happens. A food longest shatters its doors after a slow year. A chef decides she wants to move out of state. A popular diner goes bust after a crisis in the family. Vermont's landscape is dotted with the eateries of times past — empty spaces still filled with the tables, bar stools and ovens of a precious life, but waiting like orphans for living new owners.

The restaurants for sale in Vermont are not always empty, however. In this sagging economy, some go on the block while still in operation. In real estate lingo, they're listed as "turnkey businesses," some with their identities concealed — such as the "full operational pizzeria" for sale in Burlington or the "family-owned Italian restaurant with over 40 years of history" for sale in Shelburne.

The difficulties of selling a restaurant in this economy can be myriad, according to Peter Yee, an agent with Redstone who specializes in restaurant deals. "Sometimes people have an inflated value of



**IF YOU'RE KINETIC ENOUGH TO TAKE ON THE GRUELING LIFE OF A CHEF OR RESTAURATEUR, A RANGE OF SPACES AWAITS ACROSS THE STATE.**



**Current business:** Fudge Bros.  
**Address:** 119 College Street, Burlington  
**Building size:** 1,800 square feet  
**For sale:** Business and equipment  
**Price:** \$100,000

**The deal:** The current 50-seat eatery opened in that space two years ago, but the family that owns it wants to move on. They prefer that potential buyers contact their agent, Redstone, rather than coming in to look around during business hours.

**Features:** The restaurant boasts an attractive, historic facade and a stellar location — so huge windows look out on College Street, and it's a two-minute walk from Church Street. All furnishings, fixtures and equipment in the full commercial kitchen are included.

**Rumors:** Might this be the home of Burlington's next vegetarian restaurant? There will tell.



**Current business:** Jay's Restaurant and Pizzeria

**Address:** Mad River Green, D4 Route 100, Westfield  
**Building size:** 2,700 square feet  
**For sale:** Business and equipment  
**Price:** \$125,000

**The deal:** Chef-owner Walter Brink

opened this honey eatery two decades ago and has served up thousands of breakfasts, lunches and dinners since then — as well as maintaining a busy catering business. "I've been here for 24 years, and I'm just tired and need to do something different," says Brink. He recently lowered the price from \$170,000. "I'm eager to sell," he adds, and though the 40-seat eatery's prime position will serve new owners well.

**Features:** A varied, healthy clientele that includes tourists and locals. "We're at the end of the VART [Vermont Association of Snow Traxers] trail, and that's a good part of our [winter] lunch business," says Brink. Full commercial kitchen and all inventory are included.



# || SIDE dishes

BY EDREN HIRSCH &amp; ALICE LEVITT

## Rising Profile

BAKERY AND CAFE TO OPEN IN JUNE

The prime real estate left empty early this year by Rustico's won't remain dormant long. As soon as May, the space in the **SHOPS AT BETHLEHEM** will be home to a new bakery and cafe.

According to **ARMANDO SIEVERS**, director of food and beverage at the **ESCAPE COLORADO RESORT & SPA**, two months has already begun on the **BAKERY & CAFE**.

Sievers and the Rustico executive chef, **JAMES DALLAS**, will oversee the new restaurant, which will be open for breakfast and lunch. Cookies, muffins and quiche will be among the morning offerings. At lunch, Sievers says, the shop will serve sandwiches on homemade sourdough bread, along with soups.

Expansive, lattes and cappuccinos are likely to attract a grown-up clientele, but there's something special for younger folks, too: a creche machine that will enable kids to serve ice cream year-round!



The bistro shop will close in the late afternoon to prepare for evening cooking classes. Sievers says he hopes the spot will host classes on subjects such as risotto, bread making and caponata at least three times a week, but he'll hold them

daily if the demand arises. Sievers thinks it might — daily classes at the rustic English-style fit up. And if a solid selection of high-end leashes stuck at the cafe will help maddens replicate their handicraft at home.

— R.L.

## In Pizza Verita

PIZZERIA VERITA' POSESSED TO OPEN IN FORMER TUSCAN BISTRO SPAC

When Burlington's **THE BISTRO** closed in December, the aches in the window suggested it might be just for renovation. Turns out that was only part of the story. The inside of the St. Paul Street space has become a tangle of construction, and two new partners are busy fitting it out as a whole different eatery, and housed by a two-ton, wood-fired oven in which they'll cook authentic Neapolitan pizza.

Owners **ANTONIO MELONE** and **LUCIANO MELONE** respect their business, **PIZZERIA MELONE**, to be open by April. Their motto: "The truth is in the dough."

Melone says he has spent years perfecting the crust from a true-to-tradition Neapolitan pizza, a distinct and revered style defined by a thin, airy, sometimes-chained crust and simple, fresh toppings. "It took me a while to figure it out," says Rao of the crust, which he recently mastered with Antonio Melone-Caputo Type 00 pizza flour from Italy and a "slow rise" of 24 to 36 hours.

Inside a 900-degree oven, the pizzas cook in 90 seconds and emerge blistered. Then they're topped with fiber-fresh ingredients — San Marzano tomatoes, fresh herbs, mozzarella, fresh herbs, prosciutto, arugula, house-made, farm-sausage, or other local meats and cheeses. At one of Rao's private tastings, he says, a burrata-topped pie prompted an exclamation to invent in the new business on the spot. "People would realize, 'There's nothing like this crust,'" says Rao, beaming with energy.

With Rao's new Neapolitan pizza at **101 KIRK STREET** in New York City's American center of the tradition, "You keep it simple, and all of the flavor pops," he says.

The Verita menu will also feature salads created by Chic Peasant-trained **AMY BAGGETT**,

Sievers and Dallas are currently interviewing pastry chefs for the new establishment. It's a big job. The location will also serve as a retail bakery, making birthday and special-occasion pastries and even wedding cakes. Things are about to get rooster in Essex.

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## On the Block

**Previous business:** Samos Coffee**Lot size:**

**Building size:** 7,904 square feet

**Lot size:** 0.85 acres

**For sale:** Building and land

**Price:** \$1.2 million

**Other fees:** \$11,900.00 annual taxes

**The deal:** Chez-Jeanne Miguel Gómez López shantored Samos last year, leaving the heart of anyone who had survived his Latin-influenced fire. Gómez and his wife, María Elena Jerez, currently divide their time between Puerto Rico and Stowe, where they still own a home. But they'd like to sell this property, which, prior to Samos, held the French bistro Les Amis. It was sold in 2005. The land is certainly full of good jagu from among the meat gone by.

**Features:** The soaring, 75-seat dining room and bar on the main floor are filled with light and ambience. Decorations are rustic, walls-in cooler, full commercial kitchens, private dining area and wine cellar. On the third floor three furnished, one-bedroom apartments have flat-screen televisions and gas fireplaces.

**Current business:** The Rusty Nail Bar & Grille

**Address:** 1150 Main Street, Stowe

**Building size:** 5,900 square feet

**Lot size:** 40 acres

**For sale:** Business, building and land

**Price:** \$1.55 million

**Other fees:** \$12,000 annual taxes

**The deal:** The original Rusty Nail used to share a building on this spot with Stowe Plyhouse, but that structure

burned to the ground in 1998. Two years later, it was rebuilt by then-owner Bobby Roberts. Roberts sold it to the current owners in 2004, and they have had the Rusty Nail on offer, albeit on the down-low, for months. Business is flourishing, however, under chef Michael Wenzel and manager Kate Wise. The mechanical bull may be long gone, but the spuds-sla scene reigns on here.

**Features:** The place includes a sizable lot as well as a full commercial kitchen, wrap-around deck, performance space and half-la-cacher as one of Stowe's most après-ski spots. The post-modern brick building underwent a major renovation in 2006. The listing calls this "truly a turnkey business" with 100 parking spots.

**Previous business:** John Eggin Big World Pub & Grill

**Address:** 8 Route 15, Waitsfield

**Building size:** 5,607 square feet

**Lot size:** 0.8 acres

**For sale:** Building and land

**Price:** \$250,000

**Other fees:** \$11,000 annual taxes

**The deal:** Eggin's Big World was a longtime local and skier hangout where weekend lines were common. (Previously, the space held another beloved local pub, Gallagher's.) Gerry Neary, who is now the food and beverage director at Sugarbush Resort, used to co-own the business and still remembers it fondly. "I've been cooking all my life in some high-end places, and I've never worked in a nicer kitchen than there is there," says Neary. Even when Eggin's was busy, says the kitchen's favorite design mantra, "It was never stressful. It just works." Built in 1987, this structure underwent a renovation in 2006. Many locals would love to see this Mad River Valley landmark re-opened.

**Features:** The building includes a full commercial kitchen, large office space, one-bedroom apartment and retail space. It sits in a prominent, high-traffic location at the intersection of Routes 100 and 17.

# Side dishes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 38

for several years to come. "There's a lot of growth and expansion in craft brewing, and brewers need trained people to fill the vacancies," says owner STEVE PARKER, who rents out space for local breweries for instruction.

Soon he'll be able to train many of those students at the **BREW-IN-A-BOTTLE COMPANY**, a 15-barrel-a-day brewery in Middlebury owned by Parker and his wife, **CHARLOTTE HODGE-PARKER**, which will serve as both a commercial brewery and a teaching center.

"[The space] is going to be used to train students at the Brewers Guild, but we might as well use it to make beer," says Parker, whose 28 years in brewing and

education have included stints at breweries in both native England as well as at California's **HIGHWAY 1 BREWERY** and Middlebury's **ATTIC BREWING**.

That experience has given Parker a crystal-clear idea of the flagships ale he'd like to produce. "People generally like the hoppy flavor of Cascade — American hops," he says. "But they like Belgian-style beers from Belgian yeast." So Deep Dive, signature year-round brew, Sunshine & Hoppyness, will be akin to a Belgian golden ale that balances those three elements. "Balance is key. No one flavor should dominate

the other," says Parker of his brewing philosophy.

As for accompanying unusual eats, "We'll go with the trend that strikes us," he says. All beers will be sold on the greatest-in-groceries as well as on draft locally.

Parker expects much of his equipment to arrive some time in April, and the brewery on Route 7 South — which will also include a tasting room — to open this spring. — C.H.

## Crumbs

**LEPOVSKY FOOD NEWS**

Don't look for a do-over in downtown St. Albans. The last one, **CRUMBS** at 51 South Main Street, closed last Sunday. "It wasn't doing the business I needed it to," explains owner **RON LEPOVSKY**.

His other restaurant, the **ST. ALBANS DINER** on Swanton Road, continues to serve French toast, wraps and fried seafood dinners.

Industry types heeded to the **NEW ENGLAND FOOD SHOW** and what to check out is familiar fare: The Vermont Chamber of Commerce's 2011 Chef of the Year, **THOMAS OF CHOP HOUSE**, will cook at the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center on March 13, representing the Green Mountain state's New England's Greatest Chef.

"We're very excited to have Tom, and we've heard great things about him," says show director Bob Culotta. "We think he'll be a great draw for our event."

— A.L.

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**Current business:** Country Poetry

**Diner:**

**Address:** 95 Main Street, Fairlee.  
**Building size:** 6000 square feet

**Lotsize:** 49 acres

**For sale:** Business

**Price:** \$750,000 (greatly reduced)

**The deal:** This thriving breakfast-and-lunch spot is "the only sit-down restaurant in the whale area," according to agent Brian Yee. The full-service restaurant has been Country Poetry for more than 15 years, offering new owners a built-in advantage. Seller average: \$60,000 per month, Yee says.

**Features:** It's a turnover business with loyal clientele, a full commercial kitchen and a huge basement with storage. It has a visible location on Route 101 and a patio with 30 seats.

**Previous business:** The Hideaway Restaurant

**Address:** 15 Kellogg Road, Essex Junction  
**Building size:** 2400 square feet

**Let size:** 15 acres

**For sale:** Business

**Price:** \$340,000

**Lease rate:** \$3700 per month

**The deal:** The two-floor dining area is full of light red wood paneling. The condo complex it's in has food robes, too — below the Hideaway, it holds the Eclipse Grill, and prior to that, the White Inn. However, the building is decidedly out of the way.

**Features:** All fixtures and commercial kitchen are included. Seller financing is available.

**Previous business:** East End Restaurant

**Address:** 442 Woodstock Road (Route 4), Woodstock

**Building size:** 2300 square feet

**For sale:** Building (contents)

**Price:** \$70,000

**Other fees:** \$4500 annual taxes

**The deal:** The 130-seat food森林 was a well-loved place to grab a plate of coked ribs or chicken adobo — that is, until it closed in the spring of 2011. Before its life as the East End, the space held Wild Grass, another popular resto. It's part of a larger condominium complex.

**Features:** Large windows on the space with light. There's a spacious full commercial kitchen, walk-in cooler and parking for 40 cars. The front deck seats 24, and the restaurant also has a private function room. ☐

—



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# Sweet Sponsorship

A new Mad River Valley business offers up maple trees and products for "adoption"

BY ALICE LEVITT

**T**wo weeks ago, unseasonably warm weather brought a surprise boom in maple production. In Fayston, Robert Vassour's 5500 taps produced about 100 gallons of syrup in two days. Then the cold returned. Last week, the final residues of first sap were frozen upstairs in the sugarhouse where the Vassour family has lived since 1932.

Robert Vassour was born that same year. His parents put their infant son in a box to keep him warm while they boiled their sap into syrup in the spacious shack. Since Vassour, a Fayston attorney for more than 50 years, has record books dating back to 1854 showing how many gallons of sap were collected each day.

He lived and breathed sapping for 60 years, but 2012 is unique. It's the year Vassour could become a household name. Or, at least, his tree could.

Vassour is one of three Mad River Valley maple producers who have joined a pilot program called Tonewood — part commercial venture, part sustainability initiative. It's the brainchild of Doris Ross, an Ontario native and former globe-trotting Gillette marketer who's now one of Vassour's neighbors.

Once Tonewood's website goes live in April, customers will be able to "adopt" a maple tree for \$100 a year and enjoy its bounty as three thickly packaged constituents: using sapless needles and search-engine optimization, Ross plans to target big cities such as New York, Boston and San Francisco before tapping the global market. The emphasis will be on Asia — Japan is already a major consumer of maple syrup, made her because of Italian olive-tree adoption programs that give people a sense of connection to the producers they wouldn't otherwise have when buying olive oil. "What's unique about maple is that it's only in this part of the world," says Ross. "It's worth highlighting and showcasing what we have here."

Unlike olive oil, maple production is dependent on Vermont's notoriously mercurial weather. "It's not officially



harvesting until after all four grades of maple syrup are available," Ross says. "I'm partnering with Mother Nature, and she's in control."

Vassour may seem an unlikely partner in an online business, but he has his reasons. "Doris kept pestering me," he says with a shrug.

Ross adds that she wanted to support her neighbor. She also enlisted Dave Hershner of Hershner's Farm Stand & Maple and Eastman Long of Eastman Long & Sons, both in Waitsfield.

"I am a fan of hers. She's only been doing it 28 years," push-poops Vassour of the latest.

Tonewood consumers can decide for themselves whether longevity in the maple business is their priority. The website will grant them the chance of tree adoption with profiles of the farms and farmers, including video tours of the sugar bushes and interviews — Vassour wears an orange hunting hat with earflaps in his. The adoption model includes a child-sponsorship program, but Ross says she prefers to think of it as "a genomic CSA."

The usual package this spring will arrive with a certificate of adoption and a

picture of the sponsored tree. Hershner is giving his trees identifying markers using weather-resistant, nail-on-eye tags on pipeline systems, Long says he's mixed each of his.

Subscribers will also receive a 16-page booklet about sustainability, reflecting the educational side of Tonewood's mission. Ross plans to donate a portion of her profits to the University of Vermont's Proctor Maple Research Center, where the first-time entrepreneur — who grew up sugaring — attended maple-growing school to learn more about her product.

"I wanted to really help the maple industry by supporting climate-change research," says Ross, polished from our lunch at Waitsfield's Big Picture Theater & Cafe. Climate change has profoundly affected small farms such as those of her producers, she explains, shortening maple season by as much as two weeks in recent years.

Besides tracking the mood, the Proctor Maple Research Center is developing tools to increase productivity

|| More food after the classified section, page 10

Vauveur's farm is already benefiting from his collaboration with Ross and Proctor. All his trees are now coated with check-valve sap drippers. Each of these "results in higher yields than normal," says Proctor's director, Timothy Perkins, one of the system's inventors. "It keeps the bacteria from getting back into the tree every time you put a hole in the tree." Better for the tree, better for the farmer.

Aces of maple trees sporting bright-blue vines may not be particularly glamorous, but the packaging Ross has developed for the Tonsewood product is. A few months after the initial adoption move, the first delivery of syrup will arrive in black boxes designed by a Boston-based, Swedish-owned firm.

Ross, who is essentially a one-person operation, has chosen to package the syrup in clear glass bottles that highlight the dramatic color differences in the four grades. More importantly, her research revealed that glass best maintains the syrup's freshness.

The four-pack of 200-milliliter bottles includes each American grade: Grade A Light Amber (often called "Maple"); Grade A Medium Amber; Grade A Dark Amber and deep, dark Grade B. Each tree produces all of the grades at different times, starting the process with off-tasting syrup and ending it with the big, nutty-rich flavor of Grade B maple syrup.

The four-pack glass containers a chance to experience maple in all its subtle variations and choose a favorite. Vauveur did that long ago. Last year's chilly spring resulted in a sugar bush so heavy with syrup for him, and he did choose any other choice. "What I say is, you don't have no taste," he says upon learning that this reporter prefers Grade B.

In the fall, Tonsewood customers will sample value-added maple products with their third shipment, "Sweet Purée." The box contains two smaller bottles, one filled with maple syrup crafted by sugar master and confectioner Colleen Palmer of Jeffersonville. The deliciously packaged condiment is smooth, grown-up equivalent of the

leaf-shaped treats sold at maple festivals. In the other box is a maple-sugar cube that comes with the words "I'm a tart, I'm a tart." Ross says she uses it to grate sugar onto her morning cappuccino, as well as on fresh berries and granola.

For those not ready for the commitment of sappling a tree, Ross will sell maple products à la carte. In "liquid" and "solid" versions on her website, Readers syrup and treats from the packages they'll include containers of sweet maple fishes, decadent maple cream and a savory seasoning that combines maple dust with salt, pepper and garlic powder.

The assumption is part of Ross' measured attempt to make maple a regular part of mainstream. She calls the sap a superfood, referring to a University of Rhode Island study that identified 54 beneficial compounds in maple, including five not previously seen in nature.

One Tonsewood package will contain a booklet with recipes contributed by Vermont chefs, but Ross also envisions producing a full-length book. The Tonsewood Facebook page regularly features links to maple recipes both sweet and savory. On a blog, Ross will create adapters to connect to their own, creating something of an online maple community.

It's not just Robert Vauveur to be joining the conversation. "There'll be people left off," he says of the notion that he might develop a bigger internet presence.

Vauveur's take of the earth's solidarity is the old guard of maple production and distribution, perhaps Tonsewood is the 21st-century face. "What I want to do is take a wonderful, completely natural product and elevate it to the level of sophistication that it deserves," Ross says.



## WHAT'S UNIQUE ABOUT MAPLE IS THAT IT'S ONLY IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD. IT'S WORTH HIGHLIGHTING AND SHOWCASING WHAT WE HAVE HERE

—ROB ROSS

**■** See Ross will preview her Tonsewood products at Saturday March 17 at the Vermont Maple Syrup Festival in the Essex County Fairgrounds in Lesterville. For suggestions regarding Tonsewood look for [tonswood.com](http://tonswood.com) in April.



## Clean Slate Cafe

Clean Slate Cafe 107 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05602

[info@CleanslateCafe.com](mailto:info@CleanslateCafe.com)

[CleanslateCafe.com](http://CleanslateCafe.com)

An open letter to our community.

On Friday, March 9th The Clean Slate Cafe will open its doors to the public. This would not be possible without the hard work and good counsel from a host of partners. Our thanks go out to the amazing group of contractors, vendors, suppliers and business partners. Although we will indefinitely leave some out, we would like to thank the following people and businesses:

- Starry and Tyran Lane [Starry Construction]
- Chad Wendell and Brian Reed [C.E. Wendell Electric]
- Bob Garrish and Larry Eickley [Plumber Bob]
- Henry Huang [All Tech HVACR]
- Brian and Matt Howes [Gas Appliance Service of VT]
- MaxTec [Kitchen Needs]
- Jay Wright BCWCA
- Paul Davis [Sheppard Financial Services]
- Charles Bringer [VT Small Business Development Center]
- Jim Brown [Anticot, Inc.]
- Ben Lake
- Jean Gregoire [Kittredge Foodservice Equipment]
- IPS Food Service
- Black River Produce
- Farrell Distributing
- Calmont Beverage
- Bakers Distributing
- Kevin Morgan [H.E. Restaurant Supply]
- Sheet Metal
- Farren Cottman
- Local and State Regulatory Agencies
- Andre Brown [Montpelier Zoning Office]
- Berns Electrical Supply
- Macaulay's Foodservice
- Yankee Wine & Spirits
- Charlie's Feed Store
- Advance Music

### Our Mission:

- To provide exceptional service to every guest and to regularly exceed guests' expectations.
- To provide a safe and rewarding workplace that values individual contribution while supporting the team mission.

We hope that you will accept our invitation to join us as we deliver our vision of hospitality.

Sincerely,

Athena Ous — Proprietor

Jon Bassford — Executive Chef

David Wells — General Manager

# calendar

MARCH 7-14, 2012

## WED.07

### comedy

**SHRIMP KABOB** Rom-com queen Fey gets play "Whose Line Is It Anyway?" (playbills.com) in a touring environment. Tropic Arts, Poconos Center, 8-10 p.m., \$30 suggested donation. 866-233-4703.

### community

**SPRING FESTIVAL MEET & GREET** Participants keep tabs on the gallery's latest happenings in a weekly gathering. The ROTH Studio and Gallery, Pittsfield, M.E., 6 p.m. Free. Info: 236-2163.

### education

**BUILDING A BETTER LIFE** Parents of children with special needs receive introductions to individualized education programs, tips for successful school meetings, and tips-on-success in advocating for your child. Regional Resource Center, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Free. Registration info: 350-3679 or [www.rrcnh.org](http://www.rrcnh.org).

### events

**WINTER STORM CLUB** Interiors gotten buried? Let's make marks and create a fresh look at interior design. Let's talk about what's new—what's hot—and what's not. And let's discuss how to weigh the weight of the snow on our roofs. 7-8:30 p.m. Community Room, First Free Library, Tiverton, R.I. Free. Info: 592-5811.

### film

**DRINKS & A MOVE!** Pollard's puts its focus on aquatic fun with food and a flip. Head over to amusements on site. Miller's introduced Game Day II at its Park City location. 6 p.m.-midnight. 300 Main St., Park City.

**THE MEXICAN** A robust menu, nice, and releases fast the art of salsa. 10 Market Street, Worcester. Mexican and other, and ready-made, lunches. Info: 978-927-1800. [www.themexican.com](http://www.themexican.com). 10 a.m.-11 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Sunday, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday.

### fused & drink

**SPICE & SODA & PEPPER** "Underneath a pretzel crust, there's a secret world of flavor," says owner Steve Stach. Huntingdon's newest cerveza and empanada Mausouls Corp. (Huntingdon, 3-6 p.m., \$10-15; [spiceandsoda.com](http://spiceandsoda.com)) has 250,000 Instagram users.

### fun & fitness

**GO-PRO STRIKEOUT** Strike up a friendly baseball game or including exercises for balance. Free (fees and equipment). Tropic Arts, Poconos Center, 6-8 p.m. \$10. [www.tropicarts.com](http://www.tropicarts.com). [www.facebook.com/tropicarts](http://www.facebook.com/tropicarts).

**NATIONAL SOLUTIONS FOR PEST CONTROL** Stayton's Pest Control introduces several tools designed for a less common pest—the pest control agent.

entity with plants and foliage. Institute Living, Avonlea Building, 1-500-632-0300, m.s. Free; pre-registration info: 432-1248 ext. 1.

**YOGA FOR THE SOUL** In addition to Level 1 of the 200-hour teacher training, 7-10 a.m. Saturday, March 10, is a day of rest and meditation, with emphasis on one's benefits in well-being. McCord Yoga (www.mccordyoga.com), Ruth's Gym, 1-800-746-7462.

### family

**SHOW & SING HOME SICKLIES** Stay at home with a cold, get a goodie bag and a free gift that's about \$100 off the Broadway Cast CD. Children's Trust Award Recipient, Every Little Thing, 100-102 Main St., Pittsfield, 6 p.m. Info: 453-4700.

### fitness

**GYM & PLATES** Exercise and eat healthy. Participants learn how to cook in long-term care facilities and others. 10 a.m., Ruth's Gym, Ruth's Gym, 1-800-746-7462.

**TAKEAWAY PLATES** Participants learn how to cook in a variety of activities and meals. Info: 453-4700.

**MEETUPS & TIPS** Registration is open and anyone can register online at [tinyurl.com/399vzrj](http://tinyurl.com/399vzrj). Friday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Info: 368-3930.

**HIGHWAYS HEADING SOUTH** Participants learn how to drive in winter weather. Info: 453-4700.

**KIDS IN THE KITCHEN** Little ones cookup on fire. Flying, flipping, and eating with their parents. Eggs, bacon, hash browns, biscuits, bacon breakfast sandwiches, and more. 10 a.m. 888-2208 ext. 1.

**UNISEX** Clothing options for infantile blockers (diaper, pacifier, bib, etc.) and other items. Options include gender neutral items and designs. Info: 453-4700.

**WINE & WINE, BOTTLES & BOTTLES** Participants learn how to taste and identify various wines. Ruth's Gym, 1-800-746-7462.

**HEALTHY BABIES & TODDLERS STORY HOUR** Children's stories may not yet be able to sit through a story, but they can still participate in a group setting. 10 a.m.-11 a.m. Free. Info: 453-4700.

**PLAYAWAY EXPO ZONE** Walk up to a giant white pom-pom for a seat at the table. Area 1, Kidz Academy, Rockville, 1-800-746-7462.

**FIRE CHIEF STORY TIME** 10:30 a.m.-11:15 a.m. Read-alouds, music, play, stories, and more. Info: 453-4700.

**READ TO ME** Stories from the world with Rondeau's. A family-owned and operated legal book store. 10 a.m. Tropic Arts, Poconos Center, 300 Main St., Poconos Center, 6-8 p.m. Info: 453-4700.

**READING BODIES** Eight-grade students foster a love of books and readers. Institute Living, Avonlea

Building, 1-800-632-0300.

## MAR.10 | SPORT

### Worth the Weight

Hey there. You've been looking a little... fat. Don't take offense— we're mostly referring to the thick toes strewn across the better fixtures and fixtures on self-surfaces such as snow and mud. As "fat ankles" become more popular in the Northeast, "the technology to ride in the winter" is more widespread, says Mountain Bike Vermont's Ryan Throft. The pedal power feels *Bratney's Winter Bike*. While everything is weather dependent—and there are contingency plans should Old Man Winter dash out in Indian summer or a blizzard—the best-case scenario includes guided loops for folks of all ability levels and just steps for local feed around a bonfire. At 2 p.m., Throft likes spin those wheels in the Middlesex, 10 miles with jumps and obstacles down Cudly Bar Hill (Plot, indeed).

### WINTERBIKE

Saturday, March 10, 9 a.m., at Kingdom Trails Nordic Center in Killarney. After party at *Bratney's Winter Bike Lodge*, Middlebury Ski Resort, \$25 for the ride/bike, \$15 race, all other events southerly but \$40 elsewhere are accepted (\$20 donation for area-mountain T-shirt while supplies last). Info: 826-0205. [tinyurl.com/mwtsn](http://tinyurl.com/mwtsn).

## MAR.09 | MUSIC

### In Sync

From ho-hum egos to unrelatable fan expectations to the ultimate head bangers, supergroup palooza proved to be a touch-and-go concept over the years. Even success stories, such as Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young, have hit their share of audience-blockers, though the latter's recent follow-kids Dylan, John Oates and Lucy Kaplansky is filled it it supergroup. "Red Horse" isn't an attempt at group-forming research as it is an exercise in collaboration.

### RED HORSE

Friday, March 9, 8 p.m., at Ruth's Gym, 1-800-746-7462.



### LIST YOUR UPCOMING EVENT HERE FOR FREE!

For submissions, email [info@bostonmagazine.com](mailto:info@bostonmagazine.com). Final copy must be submitted by Friday, March 2, 2012. All events must be listed in the NAME, DATES & DESCRIPTION section. BOSTON MAGAZINE reserves the right to edit or decline submissions. No phone numbers.

### CALENDARS EVENTS IN SEVEN DAYS:

Up to 14 days ahead (first 100 words) via [tinyurl.com/bsmcalend](http://tinyurl.com/bsmcalend); BOSTON MAGAZINE reserves the right to edit or decline submissions. No phone numbers.



## MAR.09 | THEATER

### Good Luck, Woodchuck

How much wood would a wood chuck chuck if a wood chuck only chuck wood every two or three or six years? It's a riddle better left to George Woodward and Woodchuck Theatre Company, the force behind the

#### GROUND HOG OPRY\*

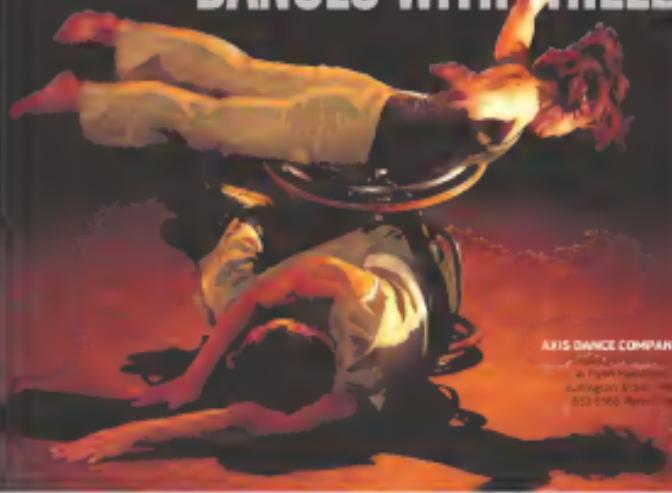
Friday, March 9, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., at Town Hall in Drexel Hill; \$15. Tickets typically sell out. Upcoming dates: March 16 at Lancaster Music Hall in Lancaster; March 23 and 24 at Hyde Park Opera House; March 26 at Bern's Coffee House; and March 31 and April 1 at Thatcher Brook Preschool in Rutherford. Info: (800) 661-8045.

Al Bright, John Drury, Jim Fiduccia, Allen Church, Nancy MacDowell, Carrie Cook and Karenne Godfrey deliver side-splitting news items and PSAs, aviation-top local programming (such as a birding show loaded with gold-medal nominees), and music so good, it's worth writing a sequel.



Al Bright, John Drury and George Woodward

## DANCES WITH WHEELS



AXIS DANCE COMPANY

1000 Locust Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19107  
(215) 545-2049  
(800) 545-2049

## MAR.09 | DANCE

**O**ne dancer leaps and twirls easily down the stage while another pumps his arms furiously to cover the same ground in his wheelchair. There's no doubt Axis Dance Company flirts with the idea of ability in choreographic works made for those with and without disabilities — but most fascinating is the way the California troupe pushes the possibilities of physicality. The wheel of one performer's suspended chair becomes a delicate merry-go-round for another. A handshake prompts a series of wheelchair pinwheels. This creative merging of whom and what, human and hardware shatters any notions about limitations: indeed, audiences "may find themselves re-evaluating their own ideas of artistic perfection," writes the Chicago Tribune.

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**BURLINGTON**

Burlington's South End Colonial  
Well-maintained frame in desirable  
location. Kitchen with stainless  
steel appliances. Floors & kitchen cabinets  
Oak & ceramic tile, yard.

**\$345,000 - MLS# 4159183**  
Call: Bruce Blum-Green  
802-846-9510

**SOUTH BURLINGTON**

Home Sweet Home  
Closes this year with many updates  
recently completed. Great addition  
in the front parlor for relaxation,  
dining room or office.

**\$215,000 - MLS# 4159093**  
Call: Carol Ausduto  
802-846-8900

**MILTON**

Bought After Hunting Ridge  
The lovely 2 bedroom Colonial is  
located in a desirable Miln. It's located  
in a very private area which looks out  
on 160+ acres of woods.

**\$259,500 - MLS# 4132191**  
Call: Carol Ausduto  
802-846-8900

**HINESBURG**

Spectacular 10 Acres Building Lot  
40 perches in place for your four  
bedroom dream home with  
panoramic views of Camel's Hump  
to the east and south to the west.

**\$169,000 - MLS# 4132857**  
Call: John Kiley  
802-541-5520

**BURLINGTON**

Charming 3-Bedroom Ranch  
South faced and wired in New North  
End. Hardwood floors, sunroom, screen  
porch & lots of natural light. Please  
send info by email.

**\$217,000 - MLS# 4132984**  
Call: Monica Raabe  
802-846-9517

**SOUTH BURLINGTON**

Car-de-Mac! Rivulet Ranch  
Ranch with many upgrades, updated  
kitchen and dining, new Price. Seasonal  
views. Open living, dining, kitchen  
and laundry. 2 fireplaces.

**\$435,000 - MLS# 4130685**  
Call: Jim Baumert  
802-846-9118

**BURLINGTON**

1950's Rancher Gem  
Over 2,500 SF home at the end of  
a cul-de-sac. Large living room, family  
room, office, formal dining R. 1st floor  
laundry. 2 fireplaces.

**\$325,000 - MLS# 4130438**  
Call: Bruce Blum-Green  
802-846-9118

**BURLINGTON**

Freshened & Spacious Colonial  
in a neighborhood setting. With its  
own back yard, this home features 5  
bedrooms, a screened porch and is  
close to shopping and schools.

**\$348,000 - MLS# 4126208**  
Call Jay Pesslere m  
802-349-0545

**SOUTH W. BURLINGTON**

Carrie South Burlington Caps  
Three bedrooms, updated kitchen with  
butcher block. Nice powder room with  
granite and plenty of parking spaces.  
Stone fireplace.

**\$229,000 - MLS# 4138895**  
Call: Mary Justice  
802-541-0153

**ESSEX**

Search with the key updated  
This home is fresh, updated and  
ready to go! Replacement windows  
newer to better, granite counters  
granite and large yard.

**\$217,900 - MLS# 4132987**  
Call: Michele Gray  
802-846-9517

**SOUTH BURLINGTON**

Incredible Improvement  
Walk up to the front door and see how  
beautiful this home is. Many updates  
to the exterior, interior & kitchen.  
New vinyl & insulation.

**\$469,000 - MLS# 4140439**  
Call: Edie Rycroft  
802-846-9432

**SOUTH BURLINGTON**

Great South Burlington Location.  
Large 2 story home with 3 bedrooms  
and 2 full baths. Many updates  
throughout.

**\$217,000 - MLS# 4134912**  
Call: Edie Rycroft  
802-846-9432

**WILLISTON**

Williston Village Gem  
Conveniently located in the heart of the  
village. Charming. Walk to 2 large parks  
Gated open. Updated kitchen. Pool  
heat. In-line laundry. Pet friendly.

**\$99,000 - MLS# 4134983**  
Call: Meg Hauger  
802-348-5475

**UNDERHILL**

Hilltop Mount. Shaded privacy!  
Unobstructed mountain panoramic  
views. Newer kitchen, newer  
bath. Newer interior. Newer  
exterior. Some newer interior.  
With all exterior updates.

**\$316,000 - MLS# 4132971**  
Call: Meg Hauger  
802-348-5475

**MILTON**

Beautiful neighborhood  
location. Walk to top of hill  
to the lake. Superb home w/ gas  
in place instant heat. Walking trail  
to Lamoille River.

**\$169,000 - MLS# 4126202**  
Call: Michele Gray  
802-846-9531

**BURLINGTON**

New North End Starter  
Fully fenced and close to the  
amenities school, bus stop and  
path. A few miles from I-89 and  
use the paved first home.

**\$177,000 - MLS# 4132751**  
Call: Michele Gray  
802-846-9517

**BURLINGTON**

The Cozy Cottages  
Walk down to this cozy 4 bedroom  
home in the Pine Hill End. Upgrades  
in kitchen and bath, as well as recent  
updates and more.

**\$211,000 - MLS# 4130439**  
Call: Michele Gray  
802-846-9517

**COCHESSTER**

Charming Cozy Cozy  
Meticulous, central location  
and comfortable living w/ 3  
bedrooms, 1.5 baths, carpet and  
updated appliances.

**\$162,000 - MLS# 4133547**  
Call: Julie LaLonde  
802-846-9500

**FAIRFAX**

Take me Home County Roads  
Charming Colonial in beautiful setting  
on 1.77 acres. Great rear deck with  
Master suite & bonus room. Large  
garage. 2 car garage.

**\$216,000 - MLS# 4133118**  
Call: Julie LaLonde  
802-846-9517

**ESSEX JUNCTION**

Don't Miss a Thing  
Charming Essex Junction bungalow  
located close to all amenities.  
Updated kitchen. Wood utility cabinet,  
storage, eat-in floor plan.

**\$171,500 - MLS# 4134963**  
Call: Julie LaLonde  
802-846-9517









**seminars**

**CONFIDENTIALITY** Technology and Data Privacy: An Introduction to Data Privacy and Security. Presented by Franklin University Vermont and Vermont's Office of Privacy Protection. Thursday, Aug. 10, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. Info: 802-229-6200.

**SPONSOR SMART** See p. B7 for info.

**smiles**

**BUKEE INGRAM** received her award as the 2018-19 recipient of the Burlington City Council's Big Brothers Big Sisters "Big" of the Year award at First Congregational Church, South Burlington, on Aug. 20. Photo: Alan Berner/VTD News

**WILLIAM J. GASKINS JR. AND GAIL L. GASKINS** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 18.

Charles Four Islands Take-Away Fund in France and Italy; Kelly and Prentiss Policy Board (united); and Jason & Kristin Marzilli in Chapman, Pennsylvania, purchased the former Johnson County Library.

**WILL RICHARDSON** As part of the City and Lake lacrosse tryouts for the 2018 season, he approached the City of Burlington Police Institute management to request a "Please Be Considerate" sign for his son Max (a student at North Champlain Middle School) to use during his youth lacrosse games. Tip-in: Free. Info: 802-229-6200.

**second**

**DEBORAH SIEBEL**, the author of *Established: How to Start or Rebuild Your Family Business*, recently released her new, in-depth *Second Generation Business*.

Spokane Performance Space, Johnson State College Tip-in: Free. Info: 802-229-1400.

**HER-2018** Burlington's senior classes of seniors who have inspired others to live longer, continuing education, making money, diversity, aging well, and giving back. All are welcome. 10:30 a.m. Free. Info: 802-471-4711.

**HABUJU'S EAST PHENOMENAL MINIATURE BARBERSHOP** Hosted by neighborhood barbershop, "businesses" are encouraged to make more profit by making "businesses" accountable, take more measures, and make more money. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. Info: 802-229-2400. [www.habuju.com](http://www.habuju.com)

**TUE.13****Dialle Finance**

**HEINRICH'S SUCCESS CIRCLE NETWORKING BREAKFAST** Series of monthly breakfasts for business leaders in a variety of different local business communities. Thirty minutes of educational round-table discussions are followed by networking and mixer. All are invited. 7:30 a.m. Free. Info: 802-229-2400. [www.heinrichsvt.com](http://www.heinrichsvt.com)

**WATKINS AND SIEBEL, ATTORNEYS AT LAW** **BUSINESS SHOW** More than 250 individuals from around the country will be attending the annual event, which will be held at the Holiday Inn Rutland on Sept. 20-21.

TUE.13-BEST

# It Was Time For Me to Buy

**R**enee Bourassa is decisive but not rash. "I need to have all the information before I make a decision," she says. Still, once she saw the listing for an affordable two-bedroom condominium in South Burlington, she did her research, applied, and closed on the unit in only six weeks.

A few years out of college, Renee was renting a South Burlington apartment with a roommate. The idea of buying a place was not on her mind.

**HOUSING IS EXPENSIVE IN CHITTENDEN COUNTY —  
I DID NOT THINK IT WAS FEASIBLE TO BUY SOMETHING IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD.**

Then her roommate told Renee she planned to move out. Renee decided to at least explore the possibilities of buying a home.

Shortly thereafter, she saw CHT's listing for a condo that was exactly what she wanted. The location, off of Shurburne Road near Route 108, was convenient for a quick commute to her job at UVM and to see her family in Colchester. "This was the first I had heard of a land trust, so shared equity was a new concept. I went through the workshops and decided it's a good plan for someone like me, with a solid income but single. It's a way to take that step into ownership."

Renee was in a better financial position than some recent graduates. As the child of a UVM employee she received a tuition waiver, and by winning scholarships and living at home, she covered her expenses without taking out student loans. That got her part of the way to being able to take on a mortgage in that expensive market. The Shared Equity program met her the rest of the way by providing a down payment grant of \$45,000.

While her costs are higher now than when she rented, Renee feels the increase is well worthwhile. "I really like having the space to cook in. The place is cozy and cozy, and I like the fact that it's mine." She has no plans to move anytime soon, but resale potential was part of her thinking when she decided to buy. "Since it's a two-bedroom apartment in a good school district, I know these will be desired if I have reason to sell it." In the meantime, the business major joined the condo association's board in order to help keep the property running well.

"I know the land trust approach helps families that are moderate-income, and the message is 'get your family into a home.' I want people to realize that it can work for younger singles, people like me too. Maybe CHT should add a slogan of 'get your single self into a condo!'"

## CHAMPAIGN HOUSING TRUST



[www.getahome.org](http://www.getahome.org) | 877-226-7431



RENEE BOURASSA

CHAMPAGNE HOUSING TRUST

LAND TRUST

10 AUGUST 2017



events, share big resources, networking and more. Offered online or in person. Call 800-470-7625. Email: Post@7daysvt.com. \$10-\$100. Info: 800-470-7625.

#### crochet

**KIT BRIGHT** Crochet needleworkers (beginners, fast track) learn to knit and treasury as they spin yarn. Plus, free tools, books, \$15-\$100. Info: 716-276-1100. Email: Post@7daysvt.com. \$10-\$100. Info: 716-276-1100.

#### fitness

**COMMUNITY CENTER** A full-faceted fitness center, from America's next generation of fun! This is the subject of Chris Parise's 2021 documentary, streaming at the Empire State Film Festival. "Up" 8 p.m. Fri., Feb. 25. Info: 800-232-2700.

**THE GYMBOREE CO.** A plus-size private membership for Massachusetts residents to off-lease for fees plus a percentage of revenue generated. \$100 down, \$100/mo. Info: 800-442-3845. Email: Post@7daysvt.com. \$100 down, \$100/mo.

#### gymnastics

**MAINTAINING YOUR OWN STABILITY** Cert. from your local instructor! Learn a basic foundation for maintaining balance and stability. \$100 down, \$100/mo. Info: 800-232-2700. Email: Post@7daysvt.com. \$100 down, \$100/mo. Info: 800-232-2700.

**GYMBOREE STRONG** See WED 02/16. Info: 800-232-2700.

**FUN & FRIENDS WORKOUT** See SAT 02/19. Info: 800-232-2700.

#### kids

**KARY TAYLOR** Counting with nature parents, connect, play music and dance. Guided by Allergen-Free Living. Wednesdays 10:30 a.m. Info: Post@7daysvt.com. \$10-\$100. Info: 716-276-1100.

**BOOK CLUB** FREE! You're invited to a book club with a highly local, indie author! Details given by the author. See: [tinyurl.com/2yqjwzv](http://tinyurl.com/2yqjwzv). Tuesdays 7 p.m. Info: 716-276-1100. Email: Post@7daysvt.com. \$10-\$100.

**CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY GROUP** See WED 02/16. Info: 800-232-2700.

**MISSISSIPPI PLAYGROUND** See WED 02/16. Info: 800-232-2700.

**BORN IN THE 80s** Join! What's it like to be a 40-something? Come along and meet others who feel the same. But forget, 3:30-4:30 p.m. \$25 per person. Free for an accompanying adult. pre-purchase info: 716-276-1100. Info: 716-276-1100.

**LITTLE KIDS** See SAT 02/19. Info: 800-232-2700.

**MILLENNIAL SCHOOL BOOK GROUP** See WED 02/27. Info: 800-232-2700.

**MISSOURI RIVER RUMMERS** IN THUNDERBIRD, STONY HOUR

See SAT 02/19. Info: 800-232-2700.

**HIGH FASHION IN A DAY IN BLUE** Cool clothes are measured w/ an crystal-clear and a purposeful look. \$100. Info: Montgomery Ward. Tuesdays 10:30 a.m. Info: 716-276-1100.

**INTERIOR DESIGN WITH MARY BETH** Learn to design! \$5 per class, plus materials and tax. Call 800-232-2700. Details: Post@7daysvt.com. \$10-\$100. Info: 800-232-2700.

**PAJAMA PARADE** Over 100+ items—handmade w/ lots of love! Blanket Sleeper, Sleepwear, Slippers, PJs, etc. Info: Post@7daysvt.com. \$10-\$100.

**PRESCHOOL & FAMILY TIME** See WED 02/16. Info: 800-232-2700.

**PLAYING PRACTICE: PRACTICALLY** Wednesday, the second Thursdays 4-5 p.m. through June 1st. Boley Public Library. Preschool 3:30-4:30 p.m. Info: Post@7daysvt.com. \$10-\$100.

**crochet**

**FAIRFIELD CROCHET LADIES GROUP** via the Post@7daysvt.com. Knit, sew, quilt, embroidery, and more! \$10-\$100. Info: 800-232-2700. Email: Post@7daysvt.com. \$10-\$100. Info: 800-232-2700.

**PHANTOM'S 80TH CENTURY SERIES** Consuming a series of winter events, from Jan. 10 to Feb. 12, Northeast theater and the arts-in-the-round offer mind-blowing performances. Details: Post@7daysvt.com. Info: 800-232-2700. Email: Post@7daysvt.com. \$10-\$100.

**VIOLET NIGHT** Flowers bring grace the fragrance and color to your home. \$10-\$100. Info: 800-232-2700. Email: Post@7daysvt.com. \$10-\$100.

#### dearfriends

**CHARITY IN MEMORY PLATES** Give the memory of a loved one to those you care about. Personalizing keepsakes, meals and gifts for friends and parents. Visit [www.dearfriends.com](http://www.dearfriends.com) for suggestions. Info: 800-232-2700. Email: Post@7daysvt.com. \$10-\$100.

**CHEATING AT YOUR DAIRY** Farm and dairy management under control learn about being resourceful and increasing. Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity, Burlington. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Info: 800-232-2700.

**FINNED & SWIMMING INSECTICIDE** Do it yourself! Learn how to make your own insecticide to keep bugs away from your plants and fruits. Info: 800-232-2700.

**SPRING BURST** See WED 02/16. Info: 800-232-2700.

**TROPICAL TROPICAL BEACHES, PARASOLS, SWIMMING & BEACHES** See WED 02/16. Info: 800-232-2700.

**WATERFALL INDIAN KITCHEN** Buckley Mountain and Madeline learns about assessing additional funding and working toward financial success. Sat. 10 a.m. Hall (Wausau). Info: Post@7daysvt.com. \$10-\$100.

#### EDUCATION

**COMPUTER LAB CLASS** See WED 02/16. Info: 800-232-2700.

**POSTURE** See WED 02/16. Info: 800-232-2700.

**DR. JAMES** See WED 02/16. Info: 800-232-2700.

**THE THREE PEOPLE, NOT ME, THE CORPORATE** See WED 02/16. Info: 800-232-2700.

**INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM** See WED 02/16. Info: 800-232-2700.

**SHIRLEY VALINTINE** See WED 02/16. Info: 800-232-2700.

**YOGA AND YOGA IN SAN ANTONIO** See WED 02/16. Sat. 10 a.m. Info: 800-232-2700.

**WOMEN'S MARCH** See WED 02/16. Info: 800-232-2700.

**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP** See WED 02/16. Info: 800-232-2700.

**WOMEN'S MARCH: RACIAL DISCUSSION** Learn about the history of the women's movement and the role of women in the struggle for racial justice. Sat. 10 a.m. Info: 800-232-2700.

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Wednesday, March 23, 2022 (Online Session) 6 p.m. EST

**RSVP:** 1-866-282-7259



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Women's 870v10 Running

**\$44.99** (Reg. \$100)



Women's 870v10 Running

**\$44.99** (Reg. \$100)



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870v10 Running. Worldwide  
availability. Call 800-223-2222  
or visit [newbalance.com](http://www.newbalance.com).

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over \$50. Order by 3/1.  
Offer ends 3/31.

—\$15 OFF SELECT LIFESTYLE SHOES!—



Men's 574v10 Lifestyle

**\$44.99** (Reg. \$65)



Men's 574v10 Lifestyle

**\$44.99** (Reg. \$65)



Women's 574v10 Lifestyle

**\$44.99** (Reg. \$65)

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#### music

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17<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNUAL

MAGIC  
HAT

## THANK YOU TO

Thanks and gratitude to our legions of volunteers specified by the American Legion and the FFA FFA. Their energy and tireless effort could not be matched.

**HHOPE  
WORKS**

HOPES Works is pleased to announce that it raised \$22,000 (and counting) this year! Thanks to all those who showed support for this innovative cause if you or your business had a great time at the ponds, we encourage you to thank HOPES Works in making a tax-deductible donation by visiting [www.changeisworking.org](http://www.changeisworking.org). HOPES Works relies on the support of individuals, businesses and events such as Magic Efti-Mardi Gras! Thank you!

A FLEET  
OF FESTIVE  
FLOATS!!



MERCI  
BEAUCOUPS!

We wish to offer our heartfelt thanks to the Burlington community for again coming together to celebrate our 17th annual Magic Hat Mardi Gras. It was another glorious weekend, and it could not have happened without all of you who came out. We are especially grateful to Mayor Kiss, the City of Burlington, and all its departments for joining forces to put on a marvelous event.

AND TO ALL OUR KILLER FLOATS

2,000 Got Jobs! - Atlanta, GA - All Month - \$100 today  
Burlington Dermatology - Costa Mesa, CA - City of Burlington Park & Recreation  
DealsUSA - Denver, CO - Good Source Corp. - Teachers & Employees  
Kathy & Co. Hairwear - Tybee Island, GA - A Wish Foundation  
Merrill Lynch & Sons - Northgate Shopping Center - Merrill Financial  
One Chapter 713 - San Jose, CA - Debrah Field - Strategies Direct/Debrah  
Special Olympics - Louisville, KY - The Star - Peacock - The Fox Entertainment  
Yonkers National - Yonkers, NY - Billie Babbitt Campaign, STAFF Work - The DNA Group  
Wardrobe Closet - Monroe, NC - Wardrobe Closet

AND EVERYONE ELSE WHO HAD A  
HAND IN MAKING THE 17TH ANNUAL  
MAGIC HAT MARDI GRAS PARADE A  
TRUE SUCCESS!



WILHELM BÖTTCHER  
VON BÖTTCHER  
VON BÖTTCHER  
VON BÖTTCHER



THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE



THE LITTLE JEWEL BOX OF  
THE GREAT WORKS OF  
THE GREAT WRITERS OF ALL TIME



**AMERICAN POLYGRAPH CORPORATION**  
MANUFACTURERS OF POLYGRAPH EQUIPMENT  
AND DOCUMENT EXAMINERS

For more event photos, visit:  
[MAGICCHAT.NET/MARDIGRAS](http://MAGICCHAT.NET/MARDIGRAS)



# classes

THE FOLLOWING CLASS LISTINGS ARE FREE.  
ADVERTISEMENTS ANNOUNCE YOUR CLASS FOR AS  
LITTLE AS \$10 PER WEEK (INCLUDES SIX PHOTOS AND  
UNLIMITED DESCRIPTION ONLINE). SUBMIT YOUR  
CLASS AD AT [SEVENDAYVT.COM/POStCLASS](http://SEVENDAYVT.COM/POStCLASS).

## CLASSES IN THE NEWS

offers free trial membership so you can test out their unique program of outlet shopping. Taught in Amherst, Mass.

### ARTS & CRAFTS

**BEDROOMS TO TAHOE** For  
BEDROOMS TO TAHOE, 17 125-315  
in the South End, call 802-860-5454 or click  
on [www.bedroomstotahe.com](http://www.bedroomstotahe.com).  
BEDROOMS TO TAHOE offers  
custom-made beds, dressers, armoires,  
chairs, tables, and more. Call 802-860-5454  
or email [info@bedroomstotahe.com](mailto:info@bedroomstotahe.com) for  
more information.

**BAKING WITH DAISY**,  
Locally baked, 100% free range,  
Burlington, info@bakingwithdaisy.com.  
BAKING WITH DAISY offers personal  
and professional baking services. The  
bakery has been baking from day  
one for people who are allergic to  
gluten.

**LEARN TO DANCE HIP HOP** At  
Dance Studio, 100 Main St., Suite  
100, Burlington, The Dance Studio,  
DCD Dancing, 301 Clothing, and  
Lacee's offer hip hop classes. For  
more information, call 802-860-5454 or  
visit [www.danceshiphopvt.com](http://www.danceshiphopvt.com).

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## EDUCATION

**GENERAL EDUCATION**  
GENERAL EDUCATION, 10 E. Main St.,  
100% local, Burlington, [www.generaleducationvt.com](http://www.generaleducationvt.com).  
GENERAL EDUCATION offers  
language and learning classes for  
adults. Classes include English as a  
second language, GED prep, and  
teaching self-expression using  
techniques from the creative

arts. [www.generaleducationvt.com](http://www.generaleducationvt.com).

### CLASSES IN THE NEWS

#### EVOLUTION YOGA



**EVOLUTION YOGA**, Burlington, 15 April 15, 8:30-10:  
30 p.m., Weekly on Tues. Cray  
Gymnastics, Location: Evolution  
Yoga, 20 Main St., Burlington,  
Info: 860-864-5444, [www.evolutionyoga.com](http://www.evolutionyoga.com).  
EVOLUTION YOGA offers  
various yoga styles to help you  
achieve your goals. From the  
beginning to advanced, Evolution  
Yoga offers something for everyone.  
Check out our website for more  
information.

### EXERCISE

**WHAT'S ALL OVER AND WHAT'S  
NOT?** At 100 Main St., Suite 100, Burlington,  
Locally Baked, 100% free range,  
Burlington, info@bakingwithdaisy.com.  
WHAT'S ALL OVER AND WHAT'S  
NOT? offers personal and professional  
baking services. The bakery has been  
baking from day one for people  
who are allergic to gluten. They also  
offer a drop-in shop where you  
can learn how to bake bread  
yourself. Their bread is baked fresh  
for a high impact, low impact  
experience. They offer a variety of  
specialty breads and  
sourdoughs. 301-870-1000 or visit  
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### GARDENING

**TAKE A POTTING SPAT**, 100  
Main St., 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Burlington,  
Cannery Greenhouse, [www.cannerygreenhouse.com](http://www.cannerygreenhouse.com).  
TAKE A POTTING SPAT is a  
gardening class designed for  
beginners. It will teach you  
the basics of growing food  
and flowers. [www.cannerygreenhouse.com](http://www.cannerygreenhouse.com).

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## glass

### CREATIVE GLASSWORKING

**GLASS IN THE ADIRONDACKS**  
GLASS IN THE ADIRONDACKS  
introduction classes call for  
reserves. Cost: \$150. Contact:  
info@adkglass.com or 518-668-  
3306. Poole St., Adirondack Spruce & Fuchs,  
Roxbury, info@adkglass.com.  
GLASS IN THE ADIRONDACKS  
introduction classes for beginners  
and intermediate glassworkers. We guide  
you through making "hot glass".  
Classes that you can take to the  
next level. You will learn  
the basic skills of glassblowing  
and glassworking.

### evolution yoga

**EVOLUTION YOGA**, Burlington,  
15 April 15, 8:30-10:30 p.m.,  
Weekly on Tues. Cray Gymnastics,  
Location: Evolution Yoga, 20 Main St.,  
Burlington, Info: 860-864-5444, [www.evolutionyoga.com](http://www.evolutionyoga.com).

### exercise

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### gardening

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Classes that you can take to the  
next level. You will learn  
the basic skills of glassblowing  
and glassworking.

### holistic health

**INTRODUCTORY CLASSES** *Courses*  
starting at \$100. (30 p.m. &  
evening). Locations: Cannery Greenhouse,  
100 Main St., Burlington, Info:  
860-864-5444, [www.evolutionyoga.com](http://www.evolutionyoga.com).  
INTRODUCTORY CLASSES  
Learn to knit in a comfortable  
environment. Knit a simple  
cowl or hat. All skill levels  
are welcome.

### language

**ADMISSIONS WORKSHOP**  
CLASSES begin weeks of  
April 10 to May 15. \$100. (30 p.m.  
evenings). Cannery Greenhouse,  
100 Main St., Burlington, Info:  
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860-864-5444, [www.evolutionyoga.com](http://www.evolutionyoga.com).

### meditation

#### DREAM STATE PRACTICE

10:15-11:30 a.m. (30 p.m.)  
Burlington, Cannery Greenhouse,  
100 Main St., Burlington, Info:  
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# music

THINGS THAT DON'T  
NORMALLY FALL INTO  
PEOPLE'S LAPS BEGIN  
FALLING INTO MINE.

BRIAN PRICE

Brian  
Cochrane  
and Greg  
Dispatch

# Almost Famous

The accidental career of Rich Price

BY DAM BOLLES

**R**ich Price never meant to become a rock star. Which is good, because he never gave up. But through a combination of talent and dumb luck, the Burlington-based songwriter has carved out a career that would be the envy of any amateur. And he's managed to continue pursuing that career despite bumps in the road and the often-dream-crushing accountability that is growing up, starting a family and — gasp — working a day job. This Thursday, March 8, Price's band, the Sweet Reasons, play the Higher Ground (Sheweece Lounge in support of his new live concert DVD, *Love or the Great Room*).

Price, 36, got his start in music as a student at Middlebury College on the late 1990s. Singing coffee at a Burlington coffee shop in a recent *StarTrek* afternoon, he describes his college experience that's likely familiar to many young local musicians: late-night jam sessions with friends, basement shows at off-campus parties, coffeehouse gigs, etc. But Price, who with his always short-cropped hair and charming face still looks every the bookish academic, thinks back to a career he didn't really consider making it a career:

"It was never something that was on my radar."

After graduation from Middlebury in 1998, Price worked for a master's degree in history at Oxford University. While in England, he composed writing songs and would occasionally send rough demos to his old college roommate, Pete Marshall, better known as Rich Price, the lead singer of pre-emo pop act Dispatch. Once back in the states, Price reconnected with Price and the two bailed up to a Providence, R.I., studio, but says they had

little in mind beyond catching up and laying down a few tracks.

"The idea was really just to record some songs for posterity," says Price. Those tracks eventually became his 2003 debut album, *Night Opera*.

Then hell, Dispatch hit the road for what was supposed to be their final tour (the band disbanded in 2001). Price invited Price along to document the trip with a video camera — and gave him his first chance into the rock-and-roll lifestyle. Shortly after, Price experienced that lifestyle again, as a performer when Price invited him to be his opening act on a solo tour.

"It was a pretty amazing opportunity to be booked that opening slot," Price continues, describing the feeling a string of lucky breaks. "Things that don't normally fall into people's laps begin falling into mine."

That's an understatement.

Around that time, the mainstream music industry was falling all over itself to unearth the next big and a major songwriter. David Gray had recently taken the world by Babylon and was up the charts with White Ladder. John Mayer was exploring your body — which, if you'll recall, is a wonderland — on *Runaway Train*. Green Day was trying and losing for breaky pop hooks. Price would once again find himself in the right place at the right time.

Following a show at Hopper's Ferry in Boston, he was approached by a fan who had enjoyed his set. They chatted for a while and the fan bought a CD. A few days later, the same fan called Price from California:

"He told me his dad really liked the CD," recalls Price, adding he was somewhat confused by the talk. "My response was like, 'Oh that's nice!' And he said, 'No

You don't understand. My dad is the president of RCA Records. He wants to talk to you.'"

Soon after, Price signed a development deal with RCA, but following a series of meetings and other industry shake-ups — and still more dumb luck — he eventually landed at Geffen Records and signed a seven-album contract. A song from his debut, "Free My Way," which he had written with Vermont's Clark Remmick, now of the Grift, was selected for the third 2 soundtrack, a double platinum album that also yielded six songs by Counting Crows, Peter Yorn, Tim Weis and Nick Cave. Price's star, it seemed, was on the rise.

He would soon find the record industry to be a field of thistles.

During an appearance on a California radio station to promote his second album and prospective Geffen debut, *Pete Price Anywhere*, Price received a call from his manager telling him he was being dropped from the label in favor of another young singer, Avril Lavigne.

Price was adrift from his contract but given the rights to his still unreleased record, free and clear. "I had a pretty good record," he says. That record finally came to fruition in 2004.

Price spent the next four years writing music for film and television and working as a solo artist. He also wrote songs for other artists, including Stephen Kellogg. But he didn't return to his own music, as a full-time gig.

Price entered his long-time political and family life in 2005. The couple had their first child shortly after. They're expecting their third this spring. Price and his family now reside in Burlington, where he works as a digital brand strategist for marketing firm Select.

Designs. In other words, Rich Price is growing.

"I had to become less and less interested in the life of a touring musician," he says.

Though he had essentially trudled in his music career for the proverbial white picket fence, Price couldn't shake music as a calling.

"I had the idea of starting a tiny [composed] oil sole series who had had success to varying degrees," he says. "Something where we could pool resources and have better. Something that would be greater than the sum of its parts."

In 2008, he started the Sweet Reasons with longtime collaborator Greg Naughton and songwriter Jason Chartrand. In the years since, the band has achieved modest success during short tours every six to eight weeks in the U.S. and a recent one on the road. The Sweet Reasons have strong fans in the Benin region around the country and have placed a few songs in national commercials and compilations. But Price says the band performs something more important than the genre-bending accolades on them.

"Once I started a family I realized I couldn't do the touring grand anymore," he says. "The artist's life can be very frenzied or frantic. And at a certain point, you have to decide what's most important. But at the same time, music is part of my identity. It's who I am and what shapes my life. But now that I don't do it full time ... I actually feel I enjoy it more." □

# soundbites

BY DAVE KELLER

## Going South

You'll have to excuse me if I sound a little scattered this week — or raise this usual, anyway. You see, I'm heading to Austin, Texas, in a few days for South by Southwest. If you're unfamiliar with SXSW ... um, why are you reading that column? It's the largest, most hyped live-music event on the planet. You need to know this stuff if we're going to converse this relationship.

Anyway, in preoccupation making arrangements and planning my attack. Frankly, the sheer volume of events happening in the Free Music Capital next week is beyond overwhelming. For every band I've heard of — quite a few, thank you very much — about 20 others are usually new to me. While I'm excited to catch some old favorites, such as **SECRET LAURA** and **IRON FINGER APPARITION** (you, really), the whole point is to find those diamonds in the rough. You know, the bands you've never heard of that will revolutionize your faith in God and music — and make you appear hipper-er than when you got home. But where to begin? The options are legion, and the national hope machine is already on overdrive, pumping dreams of bands into this year's likely SXSW forecast. I also really need to go buy some sunblock, since it's hot and

sunny in Texas and I'm a ginger. We don't really "do" sun. But I digress.

Clearly, I've got a lot on my mind. But I've also got a column to write. The only solution? A split-five, all-Fire-Torrent edition of *Soundbites*. Sempai.

## Bite Torrent

If your radio sounds a bit like these duds, well, it is. In another apparent attempt to commercial radio to be as homogeneous as possible, Hall Communications' Atlanta 99.9 FM has the ban and two of its specialty music shows last week. Both the new-wave show **Early Warning** and local-music show **Honk** have signed off for the last time last Sunday. March 4, both shows had been with the station since its inception in 1986. Hammer On the bright side, Honk will live on as a podcast available through the [Blue website](#). The first episode drops this Saturday, March 10.

In a related story, WRUV 90.1 FM is still immune. That is all.

And 105.9 FM The Radar is, too.

So what's the best thing

about "Three Needs" along over the space formerly known as **Portugal**? Some might say the additional pool table is a nice touch. Others might point to the easy boosts lining the pilot and the greatest increase in elbow room compared to the old Needs. Still others might note the weekly fanfare still vestige that goes one upon entering — seriously, what's he? first? Personally, my favorite aspect of the new Needs is that the spot is once again home to Mildred Moody's **Fall Moon Masquerade**, which started at Parson about a year ago and quickly became one of Burlington's best — and most debouched — parties. Well, folks, there is a fall moon this Thursday, March 8, hence another masquerade. The band suspect to will be there — **MILDERED MOODY, THE HUMAN CANVAS** et al. (But the belle of the ball will be up-and-coming local electro-indie outfit **DRAMA**, fresh off their Higher Ground Ballroom debut opening for indie dance favorite **TIGHT**).

Speaking of locals in the Burlington area, **JOSHUA PANDA** scores a sweet gig this week, opening for neogrunge heavyweights the **MANHOLE SUBDIVISIONS** on Tuesday, March 12. I'm guessing after **ALLAN STUBB** tips up Club Metronome this Wednesday, March 7 — see the interview in last week's issue — local

westerners will be all about the retro soul train. Well, as a gentle reminder: Pandu, as a gentle reminder: Pandu, though a fine musician now, has been the conductor on that line in Burlington for years. Just sayin'.

I haven't heard much from local indie-rock favorites **WILHELMINA** in a hot minute. The band has been on something of a hiatus in recent months while members take babies and dig into side projects — the latter presumably not baby-related. I'm happy to report the band is back in action this week. They'll be at the Monkey House on Wednesday, March 14, with local rockers **TRAPPER KEEN** and **AWAKEN**. Now to see you again, guys.

Last summer's Girls Rock Vermont camp was, by all accounts, a smashing success. If you recall, the day camp, curated by local not girls **GIRLS ROCK**, offered girls ages 10 to 18 the opportunity to study under some real, live, local rock mothers and channel their inner **JANN JETT**. Registration for this year's camp, which takes place July 10 through August 4, is now open at [girlsrcrovermont.org](#). Also open to registration for the new Ladies Rock Camp, aimed at would-be rockers ages 10 through 16 — sorry, contemporaries — and will be held over Memorial Day weekend. If you want to get a taste of what goes down at the camps, swing by the Radio Bean the second Sunday of every month.

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## KATIE HERZIG

JENNY DAY

## SARAH JAROSZ

LIBRARY

## DR DOG

BEACH BUNCH

## PERPETUAL GROOVE

POTTERY

## UPCOMING

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# soundbites

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5B

when Bull Fight host a fundraiser for the camp This Sunday, March 10, the line-up includes MARVIE GUYER, Montpelier's FOLK CRUSOE — see the review of their new album on page 6A — BIRDS and the VBS.

#### SHANNY guitarists return

PEARS unveiled a new sonic experiment recently, dubbed the **AMBIENT WORLD PROJECT**.

For the uninitiated, Pears matches his considerable finger-picking prowess with a variety of digital loops, effects and other sonic shenanigans to create, well, an ambient world of sound. He'll be at Maddy's Waters this Thursday, March 8. The show will double as a sort of informational meeting for the Ambient World Society, a weekly meeting of the mad Pears will host at the Firefly Gallery to discuss new technologies and promote ambient music in Vermont.

#### Local hip-hop heroes

**UNWANTED CHILDREN** are in the midst of a monthlong residency every Thursday in March at Neuter's. This Thursday, March 8, they'll be

joined by local funky bunch DR. BACUS and MCs FACE-ONE and **EMPHASIS WORD**.

I have really been enjoying the recent run of local rock at the RCA Center in Burlington. In particular, the **NO DRUG PREACHERS** show two weeks ago was killer. Well, the band was great, as per usual. But seeing a massive mud pit erupt in an art gallery simply warmed my toaster 16-year-old's gothic-rock soul. Thus Saturday March 10, disco-rock phenoms

**HELLOISE AND THE SAVI IN PARIS** return to the RCA Center with **DA DISCO MONSTER**. I doubt we'll see any marching, but for sure it will still be sweaty and fun. And I'm hoping for some extra cuts from the band's long-awaited new record, which at this point has been rumoured to be coming out since Heloise was **BY UNKNOWN**.

Last but not least, don't mention I'm going to **SLOWWIT**, it'd kill Silly me. Well, I bring it up again to let you know that you can follow along with my adventures beginning Monday, March



Anthoni Daniels photo

## Drive Away Hunger Program

Bellevue & Mouth for every vehicle sold. Randy Mayhew at **POULIN AUTO** WILL DONATE \$50 to the Children's Hunger Project Fund (Build

Help Poulin Auto Drive Away Hunger and you get to drive away in a new-to-you vehicle.

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MON 2/27 - HELLOISE  
TUES 2/28 - THE SAVI IN PARIS  
WED 3/1 - DR. BACUS  
THUR 3/2 - NO DRUG PREACHERS  
FRI 3/3 - DA DISCO MONSTER  
SAT 3/4 - HELLOISE AND THE SAVI IN PARIS  
SUN 3/5 - UNWANTED CHILDREN

etc.

TUE 3/6 - HELLOISE AND THE SAVI IN PARIS  
WED 3/7 - DR. BACUS  
THUR 3/8 - NO DRUG PREACHERS  
FRI 3/9 - DA DISCO MONSTER  
SAT 3/10 - HELLOISE AND THE SAVI IN PARIS

etc.

SAT 3/11 - HELLOISE AND THE SAVI IN PARIS  
SUN 3/12 - HELLOISE AND THE SAVI IN PARIS  
MON 3/13 - HELLOISE AND THE SAVI IN PARIS  
TUE 3/14 - HELLOISE AND THE SAVI IN PARIS  
WED 3/15 - HELLOISE AND THE SAVI IN PARIS  
THUR 3/16 - HELLOISE AND THE SAVI IN PARIS  
FRI 3/17 - HELLOISE AND THE SAVI IN PARIS  
SAT 3/18 - HELLOISE AND THE SAVI IN PARIS  
SUN 3/19 - HELLOISE AND THE SAVI IN PARIS  
MON 3/20 - HELLOISE AND THE SAVI IN PARIS  
TUE 3/21 - HELLOISE AND THE SAVI IN PARIS  
WED 3/22 - HELLOISE AND THE SAVI IN PARIS  
THUR 3/23 - HELLOISE AND THE SAVI IN PARIS  
FRI 3/24 - HELLOISE AND THE SAVI IN PARIS  
SAT 3/25 - HELLOISE AND THE SAVI IN PARIS  
SUN 3/26 - HELLOISE AND THE SAVI IN PARIS  
MON 3/27 - HELLOISE AND THE SAVI IN PARIS  
TUE 3/28 - HELLOISE AND THE SAVI IN PARIS  
WED 3/29 - HELLOISE AND THE SAVI IN PARIS  
THUR 3/30 - HELLOISE AND THE SAVI IN PARIS  
FRI 3/31 - HELLOISE AND THE SAVI IN PARIS

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## Listening In

Once again, this week's totally rad, indulgent column segment, in which I show a random sampling of what was on the first surface CD player etc., this week.

### Adam & the Ants, *Reckless*

Strong Prime

In Between

Reggie Spector,

All the Roadsides

Home,

Motobeaucage

Dreams

Reckless



# REVIEW *this*



## First Crush, *Halfway Home*

[DARE RECORDS, LP  
[GIGI SCHMIDT]]

The band is called First Crush and their album is called *Halfway Home*. The clichés function to inventiveness, like: Here's that First Crush band from Vermont's mysteriously productive capital, and that they're a male-female duo. Uh-oh, I hope it's not about Beach House while fearing shades of She & Him. A pretty record on, and hearing more of the former than the latter, consider myself lucky.

This feeling will only last for about 15 minutes.

"Telephone," the album's kick-off track, begins with a sort of distorted ambient that sounds straight out of a Rod Crough single. I know this sound. This is pop music. In 2012, and *First*, undeniably unto it. After a few seconds, the notes begin to swing, a solid keyboard line is placed in the foreground, and before long these components merge into a truly patient pop melody. East Coast. The soft-sung, power-melody lead-vocals take the

lead. It will last after a few tracks that this is something of a formula for First Crush, and it will tire at a pretty quickly. But initially I am charmed. "Telephone" is a solid pop jam.

The first four songs on *Halfway Home* are well-thought-out and well-produced musical statements. They're classic in the core, but interesting. Within these four songs an impressive variety of instrumentation runs readily alongside a cohesive sound path. The fourth of these tracks, "Roadtrip," even features a trashy, Phish-style guitar riff. After "Roadtrip," however, the album gets lost somewhere in its own reverie. The remaining six songs are difficult to distinguish from one another. The events that bring the opening tracks to pop-life become scarce, and the production grows hazy. There are sleep songs.

The album ends with a round-style refrain ("I'll always look back and see our hands in this building / I'll always look back and see our hands building"), and I quickly step back to the beginning.

At its finest moments, *Halfway Home* is accessible melodically and lyrically. You might suspect that the theme here is young love and the disappointment that inevitably follows. You'd be right to some. First Crush manipulate a deceptively simple and often on-the-nose approach to the subject matter. And it's true that the lyrics themselves are a little unimpassioned, but this is pop music. That is what we most often want to hear.

*Halfway Home* ends with a great deal of promise, but unfortunately it stills halfway there.

SEAN HOBBS



## Whales and Wolves, *Up to the Ground*

[SELF RELEASED DIGITAL DOWNLOAD]

On their 2009 debut, Green and Grey, Burlington's Whales and Wolves suffered a sort of rough stretch. Though showing promise, the album was derailed with unconvincing half-finished tunes that lacked dynamic punch or sonic variety. These were indie-folk sketches with no real personality or substantive weight. On their newly released follow-up *Up to the Ground*, Whales and Wolves adapt for both style and scope. Beginning to assert their identity, they offer refined and material that soars as much in country-rock pinnacles of Connor Oberst and the bright polyphony of Delta Spirit and Fleet Foxes.

"Never Know (What, Nelly?)" marks a slow start. While the unconvincing, back-porch groove is immediately more compelling than any arrangement on the band's debut, the writing is lackluster, the vocal phrasing stilted. However, the harmonic interplay between Ethan Metzler and co-songwriter Nydia

Bogart helps elevate the song above contrived country-rock fare and hints at some of the strength to come.

"Wait on Me" is an ambitious song that offers some genuinely compelling moments — especially the giddily bridge three minutes in, which leads to a swoony closing chorus. But the song's potential impact is weakened by inconsistent instrumental performances. In particular, the central, Dead-ish piano-guitar riff never fully coheres, and distance from an otherwise fine song every time it comes around — which is often.

Things pickup a little on the EP's latter half. The title track is a jittery country-rocker that bristles with raw energy — though a lackluster, chthonic rock bridge saps much of that youthful enthusiasm. The band finds its stride again at the finish, EP closer "Dry as It Is" is the collection's most complete tune, and demonstrates that Whales and Wolves can put out entire good song together without stumbling. It's a fitting, mid-tempo suggest that takes full advantage of Metzler's quirky songwriting style and Bogart's sly keytaristics and vocal flourishes.

Up to the Ground marks a step forward for Whales and Wolves, though it remains a frustrating work overall. As is just on the EP does the band deliver a performance worthy of its considerable talents. Instead, we find a series of flawed songs that almost get there, but fall just short for one reason or another. Here's hoping that the third time will be the charm.

Up to the Ground by Whales and Wolves available at [whalesandwolves.com](http://whalesandwolves.com).

DAN ROLLINS

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SAT 10 APRIL

**SUN.11**

Burlington area

**LIZ LOUGHER** (Singer) at Seven Tides, 7 p.m., \$20.**MARSHAL SAWYER & ROLLINGMOUTH** (with Brian Alton) at Club 300 in Proctorville (324-8116), 8-10 p.m., \$20, \$15.**HEARTS & STONES** (Reggae Night with Big Dog & Delilah, Dj's M.L. & Peewee)**RADIO EARTH** (Guitar Olympic Club) (Singles) 10:30 p.m., Fri., Sat., Old Town Square, 100 Main St., Burlington (860-862-7000). \$15-\$20, Fri.; \$18-\$25, Sat.**MARYANNE & MICHAEL** (Reggae Night with Maryanne Smith, Fri., Sat., Green Elephant, 10 p.m., Fri., Sat., Green Elephant, 10 p.m., Fri., Sat.)

central

**FOOTLOOSE** (by Joseph Kelly 2002) 7 p.m., Fri., Sat.**THE MEAT PAPER** (Pork Cababio and C. Farnham) 7:30 p.m., Satur-

northern

**KATE & DAVID** (Kate Michaels (lyrics) & David Farnham, Big Lawrence) (at Country) 7:30 p.m., Saturday**MON.12**

Burlington area

**LIZ LOUGHER** (Tuesday-Night Open Jam, 10 p.m., Tues.).**METUME'S METAL MOTHER** (Kings of Dubious America, Karmic, Wimoweh (metal)) (Tunes), 8 p.m., Tues.**ON TAP BAR & GRILL** (Open Mic with Kyle White) 7 p.m., Tues.**RADIO EARTH**, 8 p.m., Tues., singer-songwriter Tunes, Fri., Sat., Open Mic, 8 p.m., Tues.**MARSHAL SAWYER** (Reggae Night with Brian Alton) 10 p.m., Tues., Fri., Sat.**JABBERWOCK JAMES** (piano) Hot Harmony with Brian Alton, 10 p.m., Tues., Fri.

central

**KATE & DAVID** (Open Mic) Tunes, Fri.,

northern

**MON.12** (at Valentine's) (date accurate)

Mar. 12, Thurs., Fri.



TUE.12 AT THE INFAMOUS STRINGDUSTERS (BURLINGTON)

**Who's Your Daddy?**

The *INFAMOUS STRINGDUSTERS* claim their band of sons and music is "not your grandaddy's bluegrass. Unless your grandaddy was Jerry Garcia." As it turns out, that's a vital genealogical statement. Like newsmen create the String Cheese Incident, the quintet occupies a branch of the bluegrass family tree descended from the like of Garcia and David Grisman — and round its groove-fueled fingers such as Bill Monroe. This Tuesday, March 12, the 'Dusters lay down roots — real rock, and jazz and improvisational jams — at the Higher Ground Ballroom. Local scioness **ASHLEY PARADA** opens.

**TUE.13**

Burlington area

**MONSTERS****ROCK & ROLL** (with Dan Culture with Ed Jackson & Miles II (featuring Dj, R. Lee Fife, T-Bone, DJ of the Month)) 7 p.m., Tues., Higher Ground Ballroom, 100 Main St., Burlington (802-860-2244).**NEW SABRINA** (Up-and-coming with top-tiered (Laguna) Dj's, Fri., Craig Mitchell (piano), Tunes, Fri.,**MONSTERS & ROCK & ROLL** (The Infamous Stringdusters, Joshua Rouse, Band of Horses) 7 p.m., Tues., AA (atmosphere)**LEADING LADIES & CAFE** (Ellen Powell) 7 p.m., Tues., Fri.**MONKEY HOUSE** (Upstarts International with Jeff and Diane) 10 p.m., Tues., Fri., Sat.**MEET ME @ OLD BACKYARD** (Open Mic) 8 p.m., Tues., Fri.**HECTIC'S** (Burlingtonian Bowling) (Jones, Clegg) 8 p.m., Tues., Fri., Sat.**ON TAP BAR & GRILL**, 7 p.m., Fri., Sat., Hot Entertainment, Tunes, Fri.,**RADIO EARTH** (See **Mon.12**)

7 p.m., Tues., Higher Ground Ballroom, 100 Main St., Burlington (802-860-2244). \$15-\$20, Tues.

**NEW SABRINA** (Up-and-coming with top-tiered (Laguna) Dj's, Fri., Craig Mitchell (piano), Tunes, Fri.,**centrals**  
**CENTRAL** (Van Miller (piano), 8 p.m., Tues., Fri., Sat.) 8 p.m., Tues., Fri., Sat.**CLUB METROPOLIS** (Big Kenny Wayne (piano), DJ's, DJ of the Month) 10 p.m., Tues., Wed., Fri., Sat., Higher Ground Ballroom, 100 Main St., Burlington (802-860-2244).**FRIEDNIGHT** (8 p.m., Fri., Sat., Higher Ground Ballroom, 100 Main St., Burlington (802-860-2244)).**LEADING LADIES & CAFE** (Hot Entertainment with Dj's, Fri., Sat., Sunday, 7 p.m., Fri., Sat., AA (atmosphere))**MONSTERS & PUNK** (Open Mic with Dj's, Fri., Sat., Sunday, 7 p.m., Fri., Sat., AA (atmosphere))**HIGHER GROUND** (Tugger Dj's, Fri., Sat., Sunday, 7 p.m., Fri., Sat., AA (atmosphere))**MONSTERS & ROCK & ROLL** (The Infamous Stringdusters, Joshua Rouse, Band of Horses) 7 p.m., Tues., Fri.,**WED.14**

Burlington area

**MONSTERS****ROCK & ROLL** (with Dj's, Fri., Sat., Sunday, DJ of the Month) 7 p.m., Fri., Sat., AA (atmosphere))**CLUB METROPOLIS** (Big Kenny Wayne (piano), DJ's, DJ of the Month) 10 p.m., Fri., Sat., Sunday, AA (atmosphere))**FRIEDNIGHT** (8 p.m., Fri., Sat., Higher Ground Ballroom, 100 Main St., Burlington (802-860-2244)).**LEADING LADIES & CAFE** (Hot Entertainment with Dj's, Fri., Sat., Sunday, 7 p.m., Fri., Sat., AA (atmosphere))**MONSTERS & PUNK** (Open Mic with Dj's, Fri., Sat., Sunday, 7 p.m., Fri., Sat., AA (atmosphere))**HIGHER GROUND** (Tugger Dj's, Fri., Sat., Sunday, 7 p.m., Fri., Sat., AA (atmosphere))**MONSTERS & ROCK & ROLL** (The Infamous Stringdusters, Joshua Rouse, Band of Horses) 7 p.m., Tues., Fri.,**ONE PEPPER CHILI** (Open Mic with Dj's, Fri., Sat., Sunday, 7 p.m., Fri., Sat., AA (atmosphere))**ON TAP BAR & GRILL** (One Streetcar, Tues., Thurs., Fri., Sat., Sunday, 7 p.m., Fri., Sat., AA (atmosphere))**RADIO EARTH** (Van Miller (piano), 8 p.m., Tues., Fri., Sat., AA (atmosphere))**NEW SABRINA** (Up-and-coming with Dj's, Fri., Sat., Sunday, 7 p.m., Fri., Sat., AA (atmosphere))**THE LEAVENWORTH** (Van Miller (piano), 8 p.m., Tues., Thurs., Fri., Sat., Sunday, 7 p.m., Fri., Sat., AA (atmosphere))**champagne for emphysema****CITYVIBES** (Kevins with DJ's, Fri., Sat., Sunday, 7 p.m., Fri., Sat., AA (atmosphere))**MONSTERS & ROCK & ROLL** (The Infamous Stringdusters, Joshua Rouse, Band of Horses) 7 p.m., Tues., Fri.,**ON THE WEB BARNETT** (Open Mic with Dj's, Fri., Sat., Sunday, 7 p.m., Fri., Sat., AA (atmosphere))**champagne for emphysema****MONSTERS****ME & KIMBERLY** (John Stepien (singer-songwriter) 8 p.m., Fri., Sat., Sunday, 7 p.m., Fri., Sat., AA (atmosphere))**MONSTERS & ROCK & ROLL** (The Infamous Stringdusters, Joshua Rouse, Band of Horses) 7 p.m., Tues., Fri.,**regional****MONOPOLY** (Eric He, 8 p.m., Fri., Sat.,**Open 365 Days a Year!****Gulliver's Doggie Daycare****802.860.1144**59 Industrial Avenue, Williston, VT 05495  
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# **At Home With Art**

#### **Gallery profile: Little Fine Art Salon**

第12章

**C**arrie Bell-Faile had one goal in selecting the paintings and sculptures in the current show at her new Burlington gallery, Little Blue Art Salon. She wanted the work to make people "go, 'Ahh,'" she says, letting out a deep breath.

It would be difficult to provoke any adverse reaction to this substantial Emerson Laramie space. Thick-walled brick walls and 10-foot ceilings, a cozy kitchenette, and an inviting arrangement of sofas and chairs. And Little's superb exhibit, entitled "Reverie," fits the room. Imaginative, crystalline, dreamlike, impregnated landscapes and contemplative still lifes work their magic.

"The experience [of art viewing] is often intimidating," says Babbie-Bole, 58, holding her visitor a steaming mug of Get Gonzoed red tea. "That inspired me to start a space where people could see art as if it's in their own home." To that end, she's hosting Sunday viewings every Thursday and Friday while the show is on view. Visitors can pop in, have a glass of wine and leave with the art.

Bellefile ran several galleries at Rockport, Mass., before opening Lille last month. A soft-preserved Vermonter, she grew up in Fossone River and moved to Boston for college. She spent the first 30 years of her career in finance before turning to art, which she says she's always loved.

"I never had the talent to be an artist myself, because I'm too honest and I don't trust myself aesthetically", Belli-Belli says. "But I learned that I could be helpful to artists by creating money - I'm a marketing engineer. The connector".

Belle then moved back to Vermont last November. Her daughter had recently graduated from high school, and Belle had wanted to be closer to family and friends. She's filled her gallery with work by many of the Rockport area artists as

represented in Massachusetts. Many are considered Cape Ann artists – they paint in the loose, impressionistic style that originated in that area, which is home to one of the country's oldest art colonies. Historically, these artists (Emile A. Gruber was one of them) spent their winters in Vermont, painting such scenes as cross-country skiers, highlights in the exhibit.

The artwork at Lille takes up nearly every inch of the walls, and some of the floor space. Belle Isle also loves sharing the artists' life stories and personality quirks with her visitors. Over the years,



IT'S VERY ROMANTIC.  
I'M LIVING AND BREATHING THE ART.

she's collected audio and video interviews with her fans, which she plans eventually to feature on her website. "I'm not an artist, but I'm practicing an art," she suggests.

Tak, for example, her tale of Rudy Cole and Constance McMillen, two of the patients currently on view. They met in the 1960s in the Art Students League of New York, and married shortly after. "After they met," says Tak, "she stopped painting." She had children and then devoted herself to being a mother. McMillen had studied under the American impressionist painter Frank

DuMond, and her work is now part of the Smithsonian Museum collection.

Mitthaler's' narrative portraits at full are arresting - full of dramatic lighting and fancy little details that betray the era, such as the awkward jock strap on a male model. "In 1951, men were not allowed to be naked in the studio."

Then there's pianist Eugene Quassa, who's susceptible for many of the vibrant access scenes at Lilla. "He's a surface," reports the pianist with a smile, and adds, "He only thinks of himself."

Jonathan Michalas who plays the

landscape along the coastal roads of Boston and the fields and rivers near Concord, Mass., uninfluenced by the Dutch masters. The 35-year-old prints at Bayeux — up to 15 of them — and the surfaces of his works are thick, almost batter.

Bassano Crocker's glowing paintings of barns always begin with a layer of red. Bright red edges step out around roofs and windows along the curve of a dirt path. Bellefile swoons when describing Crocker's work, which she refers to as a cross between Mark Rothko and Edward Hopper - Rothko for the rich layering of color, Hopper for the light and structure. "She gives me goose bumps," says Bellefile.

“Antique” might have been a misnomer. The piece was hand-carved by Belli, who has contributed 3-D works in the form of wood and metal sculptures and furniture. His white oak table is held together with decorative bear paw fasteners and supported by steel legs shaped like whale tails. The piece is a dramatic presence in Miller’s smaller room. “It’s a wilder, more rustic, a more primitive version,” Belli told *Architectural Record*.

There's a reason her studio feels like a home — it is one. Belle-like loves there with her boyfriend. "Historically, most galleries started in people's houses," she points out. She had up her Redpoint gallery last year and says it's a favor bid to get to know the paintings as a way she might not otherwise.

"It's very romantic," Belle Duke says. "I'm living and breathing the net."

She encourages prospective buyers to spend time with it, too. If someone really wants to get to know an artist before they purchase a piece, Belle always suggests even organizing an intimate dinner party at the gallery, a matching between artist and art lover. After all, most of these paintings require a significant commitment—the works range in price between \$350 and \$10,000. Making a sale can take plenty of time.

Belle Rose says she's received a warm welcome in Burlington, but she's still dreaming a bit bigger like the overseas opening a sister gallery in the Caribbean someday. "But I have to be careful what I wish for," she says, "because things usually come to fruition for me." (2)

**L**INE Fine Art Sales, 11 Linnwood Lane, Suite 15-2880, the smaller downtown Basingstoke. Open Wednesday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thursdays and Fridays, 2-7 p.m.; Saturdays and Sundays, noon-4 p.m. in Seven Days; Thursdays and Fridays, 5-8 p.m. Through April 6. Info: 027-834-4972. [facebooksales@linefinearts.com](mailto:facebooksales@linefinearts.com)



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## art

814 BURLINGTON-AREA ART SHOWS BY PGD

**JANUARY STAFFORD & GAYLORNE PLANTE** 81 paintings through March 21 at Spinning Plates, 10 Burlington St., Burlington. Info: 843-0202.

**PIERRE VIGRAN** Color infrared photographs from his "BAKING THE MILITARY ROAD" series, 1986, and early 2000s. Exhibited through Feb. 15 at the Virginia Center for the Book, 101 J. Pegram Rd., Charlottesville. Through March 15 at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, 250 Washington St., Richmond. Info: 648-0202.

**PETER WIECHERT** Rock 'n' jazz and white photographs of over 1,000 1960s & '70s JAZZ CONCERTS 81 paintings through March 21 at the Virginia Center for the Book, 101 J. Pegram Rd., Charlottesville. Through March 15 at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, 250 Washington St., Richmond. Info: 648-0202.

**MICHAELLENE WILHELM** American made by Christopher County high school students from materials found in their environment in a landscape designed by Christopher's students. Through March 21 at Project 21, 201 Washington St., Burlington. Info: 843-8703.

**MARK WILSON** Landscapes, seascapes, still life and architectural perspectives by artist whose home in Dept. Army Annex was destroyed. Through April 7 at the Fine Arts Gallery at Washington High School. Info: 843-4612.

**MIKE JAHARY & KENNY ANDRE** Photography. Through March 31 at Union Station in downtown Charlottesville.

**RIKI MILES** The Paper Planes, an installation representing the artist's personal history. Through March 31 at the Virginia Center for the Book, 101 J. Pegram Rd., Charlottesville. Info: 843-0202.

**KAREN WALKER-MILLER** Painting the house the artist lived in in 1968. Through April 15 at Project 21, 201 Washington St., Burlington. Info: 843-8703.

**ROBERT COLEMAN** What was 10 seconds ago now. Through May 12 at Project 21, 201 Washington St., Burlington. Info: 843-8703.

**SHAWN DAVIS EXHIBIT** Happy Hour! A rare feature film opening March 10 at the Hillside in Charlottesville. In the New Media Hall through August 26. Up in Smoke: Smoker related artwork from 1990s to present. Curated by collectors from 2000-2011. All the art is under \$100. Visit [shawn-davis.com](http://shawn-davis.com).

## CALL TO ARTISTS

**ARTS FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE**

Artists are invited to download an application, contact project and the opportunity to exhibit on Church Street in Burlington. Deadline: April 15. Info: 434-4608; [artsforjuvenilejustice.org](http://artsforjuvenilejustice.org).

**PHOTOBALM CELL**

**OPEN ENTRIES** Award-winning photos, illustrations and prints featuring our Lenten-themed PhotoBalms. All must be 11x14 in size. Each entry will be juried and hung in gallery walls. All ages. Deadline: March 15. Exhibit May 4-20. PhotoStop, 1000 University St., Suite 100, Charlottesville. Info: 434-4608.

**WE DELIVER!** An appreciation

of mail and delivery and the importance of the South African freedom movement.

**OPEN CALL** This unique annual exhibition features SA new pieces. Major categories include: portraiture, landscapes, colorists, colors and gloriators — and the people who make and enjoy them.

**SHARON LAWFIELD** A Month of Sundays acrylic and charcoal portraits of women and legends. Through March 31 at the Virginia Center for the Book, 101 J. Pegram Rd., Richmond. Info: 843-8703.

**STUDIO EXHIBITION** Painting, printmaking and mixed media work by the students at the Virginia Center for the Book, 101 J. Pegram Rd., Richmond. Info: 843-8703.

**THOMAS GOREAU** Photography from the most recent series. Through March 31 at Union Station in downtown Charlottesville. Info: 843-8703.

**THE HOME BASE DIRECT PROJECT EXHIBIT** Artwork by former and current veterans. Through March 31 at the Union Station in downtown Charlottesville. Info: 843-8703.

**TRIST STRICKMAN** Home and Birth and Birthscapes. Through March 31 at East End House, 421 University St., Charlottesville. Info: 843-8703.

**ZOE RODGER** Her first solo painting and paper relief works. Through March 31 at Interplay, 101 Washington St., Richmond. Info: [zoe-rodger.com](http://zoe-rodger.com).

## email

**ANNUAL HISTORY OF THE ARTS** Articles by area artists. March 10, 2013 issue. April 15 at University Gallery in Charlottesville. Info: 843-0202.

**SHANE LOREN** Draw, write and cook. Color pencil, pens, crayons and more are welcome. Through April 25 at Hillside in Charlottesville. Info: 843-3333.

**HARRISON HORN** Art work by young students. Through April 15 at Sustainable City Project in Charlottesville. Info: 843-4601.

**ANNIE T. LEUNG** Happy Hour! "Happy Hour" visual art exhibition and silent auction. Through April 25 at Project 21, 201 Washington St., Burlington. Info: 843-8703.

**JANET STALMAN** Dogs, Pugs, a Pig and a Frog. Painting. Through April 20 at the Show Room at 101 Main in Harrisonburg. Info: [janetstalman.com](http://janetstalman.com).

artists, info: [artsforjuvenilejustice.org](http://artsforjuvenilejustice.org); Creative Arts, 421 University St., Suite 100, Charlottesville. April 8-13. Through April 14.

**THE PARADE** 90th. Memorial Day anniversary. April 26. Parade starts at 10 a.m. at the Virginia Center for the Book, 101 J. Pegram Rd., Charlottesville. Info: 843-8703.

**LAND & WATER & AIR** 4th. Ryan Herndl Gallery announces its 10th annual "Land & Water" exhibition. Landscape photography. Through March 25. Project Arts, 101 J. Pegram Rd., Charlottesville. Info: 843-8703.

**THE DAY OF CREATIVE MIND** Exhibit April 1-13 at the Virginia Center for the Book, 101 J. Pegram Rd., Charlottesville. Info: 843-8703. Featuring art by artists 10-70+ years old. Big and small-scale art from makers of every discipline. Info: 843-8703.

**THE FIVE PERIODIC PHASES** "Night Light," a painting by the Constantine O'Donnell. October 1, 2013, 7 p.m. Union Station in downtown Charlottesville. Info: 843-8703.



**'The Art on Burton'** When even Mom thinks snowboarding is cool, you can be sure the sport has slipped into the mainstream. Still, snowboarding has managed to retain its counterculture cred, in large part because of the envelope-pushing imagery artists and designers emblematic on the boards. Get a load of the eye-catching artwork by designers who have contributed to Burton Snowboards at Steven's Harley Day Art Create through April 16. When the gallery asked area artists of all ages to enter their own designs into a competition, more than 400 submissions flooded in. Winners will be announced at an awards ceremony on March 25, followed by a panel discussion with Burton's creative team. Winners in three age groups will get a brand-new Burton snowboard. *Sweet.* Pictured: design by Greg Ciosek.

**LINDA RECAPALIS & SHERRY PARSONS** *Our Town:* A Snapshot of Vermont's Geography in 2007, an exhibition of 100 photographs, through March 30, at the Vermont Public Library, info: 869-8404.

**MARIA LIVIUS-OBREGON** "Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man," through March 25, at the Picture Theater & Craft in Randolph, info: 802-656-5802.

**MARY MEAD & JAMES HARRISON** Works by the Cutty Susses Collage practitioners, "Through March 31st," residents' Promiscuous Creatives in White River Junction, info: 802-362-5802.

**NANCY MEAD & RACHEL FREDRICKS** "In Our Mind," paintings and mixed media work by two artists in themes of house, childhood and loss, through April 26, at the Green Gallery in Weston, info: 802-362-5802.

**MARY SMITH** Portraits, through March 10, at Montpelier City Hall, info: 802-544-8485.

**NATURAL IN DISGUISE** Traditional ceramics by John Edwards, mixed media collage by Mary Kremmendorf, and paintings by Andie O'Donnell, through March 10, at Big Room Gallery in Rochester, info: 367-8230.

**PETER RANCKELEHR** "Icons: Expressions of an American Icon," oil paintings, Through March 14, at Dorset Arts & Crafts in Dorset, info: 802-765-2020.

**RAYTHORPE** From Vermont to Italy, landscape paintings that combine scenic landscapes in Vermont with scenes from far-flung Medieval Castles, info: 802-875-3700.

**ROBERT LEWIS** 100 new mixed media prints that explore our relationships w/ trees and technology, Through March 31st, at 3FM Radio Studio 2, info: 802-865-7770.

**SHERYL FOWLER** *Roots of Vermont:* watercolors of Roots and Leaves, Through March 31st, Capital Galleries in Montpelier, info: 802-223-2200.

**SHAWN PRICE: THE PHOTOGRAPHY OF AN AMERICAN VILLAGE** Through March 28, at the Vermont State House, info: 802-860-5400.

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art



### Richard Weinstein

Growing up in the Washington, D.C. area, the former Green Mountain College art professor was more interested in politics than art. He was going to be a lawyer, but his interest waned after a few years at Georgetown Law School. It wasn't until later, though, Weinstein found his calling: working as a courtroom sketch artist before taking the plunge and enrolling in art school. "At first I thought you had to be blessed by God with all this talent to be an artist," he told the Green Mountain College Bulletin before retiring in 2009. His devotion paid off. His paintings, on view at Scatter Odilon in Burlington through early April, draw the viewer in with rich color and intriguing narratives. Pictured: "Fire on Beach."

CHERYL STAFFORD SHOWS CAPTION

**THE HISTORY OF ERINAND COLEMAN IN FIRE OR GROWTH, EXPANSION AND TRANSFORMATION,** 1982-2010. Photocopies, found and found documents stitched onto the redacted, original ledger entries at Goshen in 1982. 70x48. © Erinand D. Phillips. Through June 11 at the Goshen College Museum of Art, Goshen.

erinand@pc.org or erinandphillips.com

**2002 BIRDS IN THE ART:** Work by 11 Vermont artists celebrating the 20th anniversary of the National Museum of Natural History in the Arts, through March 17 at Stettheimer Art Center in Rutland. Info: 875-0100.

environment-and-object-in-recent-artica.org

**ART:** Artwork made of found objects and waste materials by Vermont-based artist and environmentalist Contemporary Alchemist. Through April 23 at Middlebury College Museum of Art, info: 802-256-2668.

**STEVEN HARRIS:** LEEDA: paintings and photographs, inspired by the Middlebury College students' residential spaces. Through March 31 at Gallerie 31, Middlebury. Info: 802-338-4884.

**IVAN VASILEVSKY:** An photographic exhibition of urban and industrial landscapes, architectural details and portraits. Through March 25 at the Middlebury Center for Contemporary Art, info: 802-338-4884.

**JON H. MAYER:** A series of photographs from most and the Adirondacks. Through March 30 at Gallerie 31, Middlebury. Info: 802-338-4884.

**REIN FUCHIGAMI:** "Rock Is Big Baby," works in oil, acrylic, charcoal, pencil, ink, paper, wood, fabric, and sculpture. Through March 24 at the Vermont Sculpture Center in West Rutland. Info: 802-438-2007.

**THE UNIVERSAL MUSEUM:** Photographs, paintings, prints and leather book. Through March 31 at the National Museum of the Morgan Horse in Middlebury. Info: 802-338-1321.

scott@vtm.org

**JO ABRAMS: AN EXHIBITION OF THINGS:** Works in oil, acrylic, pencil, charcoal, paper, mixed media, and sculpture. Through April 10. Paintings and sculptures. The Lester Collection. Works by 22 local artists. Through April 11 at Union Memorial Gallery in Jeffersonville. Info: 802-338-5202.

**CALICOES:** White calico and art print show. Through April 13 at Gallerie 31, Middlebury. Info: 802-338-4884.

**CONNECTED TO VERMONT:** Text and video about the people and places that inspire Vermont artists. Through April 11 at Union Memorial and Barnum Galleries. Curators: Jennifer Tamm Parker Greenberg and Kristin Frisch. Among other artists,通过 March 31 at Green & Blue Gallerie in Middlebury. Info: 802-338-4884.

**MARCI GRIFFITH:** Paintings of Old Vermont landscapes. Through March 31 at Union Memorial and Barnum Galleries. Info: 802-338-4884.

**CAROLYN VENEMAN:** Works on metal panels and wood. Through April 11 at Gallerie 31, Middlebury. Info: 802-338-4884.

**IN CELEBRATION FOR WOMEN:** Works by Elizabeth Miller, Vicki Aronoff, Ruth Albers, Lisa Ang, and Emily Eckert. Painted body. Middlebury Center for Contemporary and Regional History. Through March 29 at Vermont Free Art Gallery in St. Johnsbury. Info: 802-865-3833.

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## ART SHOWS

**JACINTH DIBBLENTY** "Source of Empathy" reception, April 12, 5-7 p.m. Vermont College MFA in Studio Art. Johnson Hall, Vermont College, info: 802-368-0509.

**JEANNE CARMICHAEL** Still life and landscape painter rep., through March 12 at New Englander's Restaurant, Regional Hospital in St. Johnsbury, info: 802-755-1763.

**JOAN DE NOIRAS** "People In Places," painting and drawings, through April 15 at Vermont Studio Center in Johnson, info: 802-425-8397.

**KATHLEEN KOLE** "Snow Light" oil paintings, through April 23 at Green Mountain Fine Art gallery of Stowe, info: 802-253-1888.

**LANDSCAPE IN VIREOS** Watercolor and charcoal artwork by Terri Scott, Vermont Gallerie and Terri Scott Artwork, through March 26 at Atelier A, a cooperative gallery in Jericho, info: 802-360-2000.



### Jackie Mangione

When it comes to stunning waterviews, the Winooski River has some tough competition — we're looking at you, Lake Champlain. Unfortunately, the old. Once. River often just blurs into the background. Jackie Mangione is giving this body of water its due. She paints from unusual vantage points such as underneath bridges to offer unobstructed views of the landscape. And she's been using an unconventional technique: applying watercolors directly onto canvas, rather than fibrous paper; so her paintings are ready to hang in gallery walls. She'll lead workshops on this technique at her Soda Plant studio in April. Check Mangione's colorful river works at Black Horse Fine Art gallery in Burlington through March 21. Pictured: "Winooski Bridge."

**LATE WINTER SHOWERS** Abstract work by Karen Gosselin, through March 12 at Vermont Studio Center. Painting by Karen Gosselin and Lori Gosselin. Reception: Saturday, March 9 at Seven Chimneys in St. Johnsbury, info: 802-368-1620.

**MURKIN JAMES & JOHN ZERBY** Photography by James Murkin and John Zerby. Through March 23 at Atelier art/Residence Cooperative gallery in Killington, info: 802-424-4023.

**MURKIN BILL** "Insects & Paintings," insect artwork by Bill Murkin, through April 4 through April 25-26 River Arts Center in the village, info: 802-251-2515.

**RAVEN SCHWAB+BRILLE** The feature of latest Art Council programming, through March 30 at Union Square Gallery in Montpelier, info: 802-223-1222.

**REBECCA HARRIS MAH** "A portrait of the artist as a young woman" is a solo exhibition by Rebecca Harris Mah, presented or 2013 as an exhibition held at the University of Vermont College of Fine Arts at Johnson Scott Memorial Gallery, Johnson State College, info: 802-463-5483.

**ROCHINGHAM FOLKLORE SHOW** Handicrafts, folk songs, traditional music at American Center in Townshend, info: 802-262-0200.

**RYAN LARUE** "Karma: Mindful Playfulness of the Goods," art installations of various decorative items found in Park, through March 26 at Studio 101, info: 802-860-7221.

**SHANE MILLER** Works in papermaking by papermaker, Miller, through March 15 at River Arts Gallery II, Sculpture Park in Stowe, info: 802-253-0162.

**SUSAN CALLEN** "Paintings, sculptures, mixed media, installations, drawings, prints, and performances inspired by literature and current events" in New York, New Orleans, and Montreal. Murray Hill Fine Art, info: 802-367-2000; and gallery, info: 802-365-3600.

**THE ART OF BLASTING** Works by artists who have used blasting to the design of their landscapes, plus ideas inspiring the process of change,通过 April 15 at Interlochen Center for the Arts, info: 216-337-0300.

**WILSON SNOWPLOW BURLEY** "Signature series" exhibition of snowplow art, through April 15 at the Vermont Folklife Center in Stowe, info: 802-253-1500.

**REGIONAL**

**FIRE WALK AT THE UPPER VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL**, Exeter, NH April 12 at 10 a.m. An open-air ceremony.

**EXHIBITION** "Exceptional work by the region's emerging young artists," through March 25 at Atel. Artistry and Art Center in Exeter, NH, info: 603-733-2222.

**HIGH SIDE THE GREAT CARNIVAL**, A re-enactment of the 1775 Battle of Bennington, April 13, 14, 15. Participants will spend much of the time in costume while the theatrical event reminds them as a "Burgess of art," through May 26 at Historical Museum in Brattleboro, VT, info: 802-258-0200.

**WAVES AMERICAN ART AT EARTHQUAKE** Highlights from the Hugo Munoz Jr. Art Collection, through April 12 at Earthquake, a gallery and studio space in the former home of the artist, that explores community and change within iconic American indigenous cultures. Through March 23 at Hugo Munoz's Greenstone College in Hanover, NH, info: 603-646-2898.

**GARDEN AND GEMS** Sculpture, paintings, jewelry, craft and other works by members of the Stowe Art Association, through April 12 at the Stowe Art Association gallery in Stowe, info: 802-254-1010.

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### What Is Vermont College of Fine Arts?

Vermont College of Fine Arts, anchored on its historic hilltop in Montpelier, creates life-changing moments for a diverse community of artists and writers.

Thanks to our progressive, student-centered graduate study model we offer five distinctive Master of Fine Arts degrees, each based on artistic and literary apprenticeships with our nationally prominent faculty.

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We invite you to explore all that Vermont College of Fine Arts has to offer. Attend one of our many free events – a platter of readings, concerts, and exhibitions – and experience our vibrant artistic community for yourself.



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# movies

## Project X ★★

**T**odd Phillips' philosophy would seem to be "If at first you succeed, try doing variations on the same thing again and again." It's a code that initially served the filmmaker well, taking him from the hot-party-prone-swing-comedy cult classic to the hot-party-prone-swing-comedy *The Hangover*. More recently, not so much. *The Hangover Part II* failed to live up to expectations, but their film just plain fails.

For the party-prone-swing comedy *Project X*, Phillips acts as a producer rather than director and sets his sights on a new genre: that of teenagers. Thomas (Thomas Mann), Costa (Oliver Cooper) and JT (Matthew David Brown) are Freshmen pals planning the big day of their lives: their class prom. They're high school kids on the periphery of popularity and willing to do whatever it takes to ensure their classmates stay cool.

Evidently Phillips either believes his target audience has never seen a movie made before 2010 or simply thinks every last bit of the earlier buyers' box-set behemoths won't really send them to do anything new. The story — to the extent *Project X* can be and

is tall one — is a grab bag of bits from the teen canon. Writers Michael Bacall and Matt Devlin leave no trope unturned. Their script plays like who you just got if you put *Animal House*, *Frogs*, *Brother's Day Off*, *Braveheart*, *Risky Business* and *Superbad* in a blender.

The idea is that Thomas's parents is sort of Egomaniac. Like the other characters before, he's been given the personality to play off of. He's a bit-old who wants to get laid. When his parents decide to go away for the weekend, they have the option about taking his home alone. "He's not exactly like *Requiem*," we say to his father's mother. "He's a heart."

And, with the mandatory warning not to touch Daffy expensive foreign car (no problem, this is in what passes for后modernism in film schools these days), they're off. The trio go home, set up the traps for the girls they hope will see these the approval of their peers while helping them lose their virginity.

Well, let's cut to the chase. We see mid-life reversion (Costa steals and uses devotions electronically). Thomas' house is overrun by basset-hound hounds of underage revelry who conveniently bring their own booze



REVIEWERS

Three buds attempt to prove they're cool by throwing a wild party in this told-in-camera rom-com.

and, in the case of the young women, can't stop their legs and hair from the looks around. Girls are passed around, girls are passed, the DJ blunts major as dead pool just knows the gung-ho neighbor will become a recurring character.

Boys and girls gone wild, casually maiming bodies between beds, in a continual cycle of damage from a night that got out of control — we've been here before. Phillips' sophomore effort is a volume reader for substance over invention. But, by the time the riot squad has been called, these kids the sky and the local news' cheaper shores as speedbumps who look like a state-Woodstock. "The viewer isn't shocked, as the film's creators would like, but rather bored by the sheer unoriginal execution of it all." *Dull* invention

is not another film found during dead. Phillips apparently can't even delegate effectively at this point. Her outstretched directionial choices in a muddle of TV commercials named *Maria Nagorende*, and there's where this movie looks like — and is for forename, tasteless excess. There isn't an iota of joy within a mile of the proceedings. And if things continue to go wrong the way they have been lately, Phillips may find herself facing a once-in-a-millennium reality. The picture's over. □

RICK KISOMAK

## REVIEWS

## Pina ★★★★

**A**woman boards a suspension railcar over her, her face hideously wild, dark hair. As she results in the aisle, slowly George, her every movement seems to produce loud, strenuous sounds and might associate with the emergence of a creature from the Black Lagoon. That's a picture arriving across from Peter, Max Wenders' 3-D dance film the start part for three hours. On the contrary — in an assessment of choreographer Pina Bausch's work, shortly after her death in 2009, New York Times critic Alastair Macaulay noted that her pieces were "more giddy theater as much as dances, and seemed a correspondingly broad audience." Peter Wenders asked a troubling question: "How much of [Bausch's] choreography, if any, can survive her?" After acknowledging this bit of her work have been captured on film, he concluded that "mainly, as they say, you had to be there."

Did just? Wenders — who was already plotting his documentary about Bausch when she died unexpectedly in '09 — seems to have unanswered *Pina* in an editing schedule to Macaulay's chagrin. Using 3-D cameras on telecine emulsion, the wizened German director/producer knows the tricks of three-projector screens not just in the audience but on the

stage with the dancers of Bausch's company, *“Tanztheater Wuppertal”*.

In the film's long opening sequence, an except from Bausch's ride on Strindberg's "Rite of Spring," we see the depth in the aisle after the dancers pound beneath them. We glimpse the primal desperation in the eyes of the female dancers as they defiance of their male counterparts gains a somatic and dress. And we feel the dramatic weight of the moment when that offering is finally accepted. Whatever is happening, we are there, witnessing it in the present tense, not through the traditional documentarian's lens of distance and commentary.

Wenders' estimation this immediately throughout the film, which alternates between staged ensemble performances and solo or pair duos that take place in the public spaces of Wuppertal — on public transit, on a rustic-car interior, beside a laborer continuing work. Blend at the moment after spring leaves under these surreal sequences have to assume, fibrous beauty.

Bausch wasn't a huge fan of words, as her dancer attest, as Wenders goes out of his way to prevent the movement segments from blocking the film's few statements of the company speak about Bausch as violence



REVIEWS BY RICK KISOMAK

The dances of West Bausch's company culminate for largely uninterested postmodernists in this year's *Pina*.

as we gaze at images of their silent yet expressive faces. If Wenders wanted to assess the language of the舞 from the language of the word, but his succeeded, anyone seeking body biographical information about Bausch, or analysis of her place in German culture and the history of dance, will need to look elsewhere. The highly personal notes Wenders offered in *Pina* suggest that Bausch was a kind of choreographer, Merleau-Ponty teacher, and guru, given to exhortations like "You need to be more energetic than that!"

Outside the dancing, these interests might come off as tendencies from an ex-

treme cult, but Wenders has already enlisted us in numbers. The proof of Bausch's method is in the results. Pictures such as "Cafe Milk Bar" — which Wenders presents at length, integrating audience with archival footage — have an emotional accessibility that more abstract practitioners of modern dance lack. Take the pleasure of silent films, Bausch's work tips off at a level that is personal, yet not yet cut off entirely.

When this review appears on screens, you will have two days left to take advantage of them. □

MEREDITH HARRISON



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## SHOWTIMES

11:30PM FRI: **WILLIS' WOMEN**  
THURS-SATURDAY 10:30PM **THE MIST** (R)  
TUES-DUO 7:30PM **THE MIST** (R)  
TUES-DUO 7:30PM **THE MIST** (R)

### BIG PICTURE THEATER

4K Cinema 4K Ultra HD  
Watch live 4K 4KHD video  
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Wednesday 7 - Thursday 8:  
The Artist 7:30, 8:30  
The Artist 7:30, Journey 2: The  
Mysteries of Us 3:30

Fall schedule not available  
at present. Movie Times  
change frequently.  
Check website.

### BIGU CINEPLEX 1-2-3-4

MON-FRI: 6PM  
SATURDAY: 1PM  
SUNDAY: 1PM

Wednesday 7 - Thursday 8:  
Brave 1:30, The Lorax 1:30  
Brave 1:30, Journey 2: The  
Mysteries of Us 1:30, Gobots

Wednesday 7: Journey 2: The

Artist 9: Journey 2: The  
Mysteries of Us 9:30, Gobots

Artist 9: Journey 2: The  
Mysteries of Us 10:30, Gobots  
10:30, Gobots 10:30, Gobots 10:30

### CAPITOL SHOWPLACE

MON-FRI: 7:30PM

Wednesday 7 - Thursday 8:  
Project X 9:30, 10:30

Artist 9: Journey 2: The

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第10章 例題

THE SECRET WORLD OF MINIUTTY

The aminoterminal study of Human Myo 3α and Myo 3β revealed the presence of a Myo 3α-binding domain in the N-terminal half of Myo 3β. This domain is highly conserved among the members of the Myo 3 family and contains a putative coiled-coil-forming domain. The presence of a Myo 3α-binding domain in the N-terminal half of Myo 3β suggests that Myo 3β may form heterodimers with Myo 3α. This finding is consistent with the presence of a Myo 3α-binding domain in the N-terminal half of Myo 3β.

**A. SEPARATION WHILE** An international film festival featuring a chain of unfortunate events in the winner of the Best Foreign Language Film Award from director Asghar Farhadi. Starring Peyman Moaadi, Leila Hatami and Samira Bajai. 2009. 96 min. DCP. Persian.

**STAR WARS: EPISODE I: THE PHANTOM MENACE** is **Star Wars** for you really want to see Jar Jar Binks. It's Star Wars George Lucas purges on the banalities in post his squat spin-off, *Attack of the Clones*. Decimally traits and stuff back in theaters, with Ewan McGregor, Natalie Portman and Lucas himself. (138min. PG. English/Majestic East [R])

**The Caribbean with Us** The world's most elusive CIA operation! Learn their unique techniques when every family tree seems to have its very own missing adventure-themed fruit...  
STORY BY MEG STARRING CHRIS PRICE, TOM HARRY AND ROBIN WILCHINSKY | 198 min. PG-13 | EMAIL: [MEG@CARTOON.COM](mailto:MEG@CARTOON.COM)

**TENNESSEE VALLEY SOLDIER** *SPV* director Gary Oldman plays a B-52's intelligence agent, recruiting a pilot during the 1962 *Fail-Safe* adaptation of *John le Carré's* novella about a disastrous nuclear war.

*Anglo-Saxons*, *Athelred the Unready*, *Cædmon's Hymn*, *Heath  
Literacy*, *Beowulf*, *Caedmon's Hymn*, *Tomb Poetry* and  
lists of other Anglo-Saxons

**TRUST MEMBERS: 500000000\$** ■ This time around, William Miller Perry dispenses the rewards he's had in his dreams as a businessman who has made it big, transforming McCoy's old-line wagon into Superduty. Like many "hustlers," he's the most popular in his field, and his Lucy's is known for its 200,000-square-foot store in Atlanta.

**Tell Us Your Story** A memory comes between newlyweds Rachel Hollis and Channing Tatum in *Entertaining*. Inspired by a true story, with Sam Rockwell, Scott Speedman and Jessica Lange. Michael Sisto plays the title character. Directed by Michael Almereyda. PG-13. 103 mins. Capitol Pictures, Hollywood, California.

**WANDERLUST** A coming-of-Manhattan-comedy [Lewellen, Ashton and Budd] happens to be "a community project" by careful characters who enter it a different way if looking at things in this comedy. Sounds like the *Wanderlust* (Felicities coming to the Midwest) story line. With David Thewlis and Helen Mirren, Dan Futterman, Michael Glazier directed. [Blu-ray] B. Capital (Fox, March).

**THE WOMAN IN BLACK** (in which Harry Potter grows up) but David Rabe's play is a rather young widow with a child who returns as a vengeful spirit. In this British-Heavy film based on James (John Lithgow) Witherspoon, Daniel Craig, Helen Mirren, and Janet McTeer. (100 min. PG-13, unrated)



## Movies You Missed 28: *Wings*

Lots-and-lots of movies—never [or only briefly] make it to Vennous shelves. Each week, Merges Harrison reviews one that you can now catch on your home screen.

This week in movies: *Avatar* makes history. The first film ever to win the Academy Award for Best Picture was a lighter-palate entrée, and that, in adjusted dollars, could be the most expensive flick ever made.

ed and one of two silent films ever to receive the big prize [The Arocl, as of last Sunday being the other]. How Meigs' focus on crystal and blue Ray in an otherwise gastronomically resplendent film from *Entertainment's* 35mm magazine, with color tinting and visual effects, is newly rewarding alone and sound effects from BenBurtt:

第5章



**S**mall-town boy Jack Powell (Buddy Ebsen) dreams of flying. He's madly in love with tykes (Dolores Moran), a girl who is particularly dimwitted because she is "venting from the city" — but her affections belong to David (Richard Arlen), the richest guy in town. Meanwhile, Jack's childhood gal, Mary, tries desperately to get his romantic attentions, while he treats her like a comical annoyance, apparently not recognizing her as "the girl."

— 11 —

Final  
Review



Final  
Review

An advertisement for Ting Thai Restaurant. It features a photo of a dish with green onions and a lime wedge. Text includes 'Ting Thai Restaurant', 'Authentic Thai Food!', 'Come try our expanded menu!', 'Now Open ALL DAY Saturday & Sunday!', '20 Main St., downtown Mansfield, 455-4819', 'APPETIZERS: Spring Rolls, Eggrolls, Fried Rice, 12 oz. House Wok', 'Beverages: Iced Tea, Soda, Beer, Wine', and 'TING THAI RESTAURANT.NET'.

In March we're following the Gold Rush. We'll start in San Francisco, head up the Pacific Coast, then catch the ferry to Alaska. If you've moved in one of these places please share your memories on our Facebook page. **WB Features** specialise in these regions and will be happy to answer every right from 8.30pm and onwards. **Barberdale** and **Bunbury** Tues-Sat.

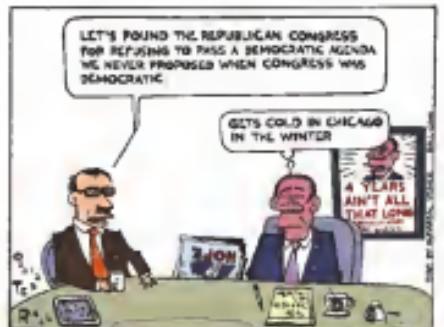






COMICS

TERESA MALLON



LULU EIGHTBALL



BL155 雷射打標機 BL155



“We can’t afford to wait for the market to catch up with us,” says Mr. Cullen.



## **THIS MORNING WORLD**















# THE JOY OF LEARNING!

## THE LEARNING CENTER AT HEALTHY LIVING

### Empanadas

Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup> · 5:30pm - 8:00pm

Hands-on · \$45 · pre-registration is required



On the Menu: everything from Cinnamon Scented Beef Empanadas with Black Currents to Pineapple and Vanilla Bean Empanadas, and a lot more deliciousness in between. Learn to make your own easy, delicious, golden-brown pastries in this hands-on class.

### Polenta Magic!

Monday, March 26<sup>th</sup> · 5:30pm - 8:00pm

Demo · \$30 · pre-registration is required



Creamy, velvety polenta, made from scratch, can be used in a variety of ways to create amazing dishes. You'll learn how to make everything from Grilled Polenta Cakes with Creamy Goat Cheese and Roasted Tomatoes to Polenta and Eggs with Black Beans and Avocado and a whole lot more!

### A Bountiful Harvest, with Julie Rubaud

Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> · 5:30pm - 8:00pm

Lecture · \$20 · pre-registration is required



Learning with Julie from Red Wagon Plants is a joy! She'll help you start big and end up with bountiful harvest all spring, summer and fall, whether you have a large garden plot or small raised beds. A well-planned garden ensures a season of satisfaction!

### Pharma Foodies: Foods for Graceful Aging

Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup> · 5:30pm - 8:00pm

Demo · \$30 · pre-registration is required



This month our ongoing series looks at delicious ways to work with our aging bodies. Think healthy brain, good memory, clear vision and the yum factor! You'll eat wonderful food full of ingredients from our culinary pharmacy, like Thai Red Curry with Crispy Shrimp and Peanuts.

To reserve your place or to see our complete class schedule, visit our website or call